

JOURNAL

— OF THE —

SEVENTEENTH QUADRENNIAL SESSION

— OF THE —

GENERAL CONFERENCE

— OF THE —

Methodist : Protestant : Church,

— HELD IN —

KANSAS CITY, KANSAS, MAY 15-23, 1896.

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U. S. FLEMING, AGENT,
PITTSBURGH.

WM. J. C. DULANY, AGENT,
BALTIMORE.

STATISTICAL TABLE NO. V—YOUNG PEOPLE'S SOCIETIES.

CONFERENCES.	No. Christian En- deavor Societies.	Other Societies.	Members.	Members Rec'd into Church.	Money Raised.	Societies Taking Our Young People.	Societies Giving Systematically to General Church Interests.
Alabama	4	.....	95	.....	.....	1	.....
Arkansas.....	1	.....	14	.....	.....	.....	.....
Genesee.....	5	.....	143	15	\$ 12 59	2	.....
Indiana.....	13	4	349	68	225 19	9	4
Iowa.....	18	.....	374	.....	110 34	6	3
Kansas.....	16	.....	340	3	96 20	6	.....
Maryland.....	45	10	1,903	58	1,300 00	20	2
Michigan.....	8	.....	193	5	137 00	9	1
Minnesota.....	3	.....	29	.....	.....	1	.....
Missouri.....	4	.....	55	.....	.....	2	.....
Muskingum.....	37	1	1,738	145	981 68	12	.....
Pennsylvania.....	1	.....	30	.....	.....	1	.....
Nebraska.....	7	.....	168	.....	30 75	3	1
North Carolina.....	2	.....	35	.....	.....	3	.....
New York.....	7	.....	217	37	224 60	3	2
New Jersey.....	12	.....	313	17	459 33	2	.....
Onondaga.....	8	1	213	33	84 43	2	1
North Illinois.....	29	2	773	41	110 00	13	4
Ohio.....	38	.....	1,150	24	269 15	12	3
Pittsburgh.....	68	.....	2,025	196	1,859 00	20	7
South Illinois.....	3	.....	70	.....	15 00	2	1
Washington.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....
West Michigan.....	3	.....	105	11	.....	3	1
West Virginia.....	22	.....	616	10	428 63	9	1
Total	355	18	10,965	633	\$6,329 89	143	31
Other Societies.....	18	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total Societies.....	373	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

NOTE.—Since the adjournment of the General Conference additional societies have been reported sufficient to bring the entire number up to over 400.

JOURNAL.

FIRST DAY.

Friday Morning, May 15, 1896.

The General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church met in seventeenth quadrennial session, in the People's Methodist Protestant Church, Kansas City, Kansas, Friday, May 15, 1896, at 10 o'clock A.M.

The Conference was called to order by J. W. Hering, President.

Devotional exercises were conducted as follows: Singing,

“Jesus shall reign where e'er the sun,
Does his successive journeys run.”

Prayer by J. W. Hering, of Maryland; reading the 27 Psalm; prayer by F. H. M. Henderson, of Georgia; singing, “A Charge to Keep I Have.”

President Hering made his report and recommendations.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT.

In opening the seventeenth quadrennial session of the General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church, I greet you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, whose guiding presence has been graciously vouchsafed to our church since our last assembling, and by whose favor and blessing we have been enabled, as a denomination, to go forward in our work for Him. Honored as I was in 1892, in being elected to the presidency of the General Conference, and being permitted to meet you this morning, I have thought it not inappropriate to make some remarks touching my official relations with the church in the term which is now about to close. The power vested in the President of the General Conference is, as you

OFFICERS.

DR. J. W. HERING, PRESIDENT,
WESTMINSTER, MD.

REV. T. M. JOHNSON, SECRETARY,
HENDERSON, N. C.

ASSISTANTS :

REV. G. E. McMANIMAN, CAMBRIDGE, OHIO,

T. A. MURRAY, BALTIMORE, MD.,

J. NORMAN WILLS, GREENSBORO, N. C.

work and would be useful, and in many cases, I think, mutually beneficial. While there has been peace throughout most of our work and much prosperity, my observation, so far as I have been able to make it, clearly demonstrates to me the fact that the Conferences and churches which are freest from trouble and are doing the best work, are those that most scrupulously respect the law. The difficulties which at times so seriously interrupt the prosperity of church work, in nearly all cases, grow out of a disregard for church law. Let the law be thoroughly understood and absolutely respected and obeyed, and few difficulties, I imagine, would ever occur to mar the harmony of the church or interfere with its work.

Our denomination, I am glad to say, has steadily grown, and in the past four years has done noble work for God. The principles which are embodied in our form of government are coming to be more and more recognized as furnishing the true foundation for the highest and best ecclesiastical system, and we believe the time is not far distant when they will pervade our sister Methodisms, thus bringing into closer relations those who now cherish the same faith and rejoice in the acceptance of the same doctrines. It would gladden the heart of every true follower of the Lord Jesus Christ if all the barriers which now exist between our common Methodisms were broken down and gone forever. May God speed the day.

I herewith submit the vote, so far as it has been reported to me, upon the overtures sent down to the Annual Conferences by the last General Conference :

Overture 1. Amend Article 12 by adding "And provided that no Annual Conference shall elect a woman to the office of elder." (2). Amend Article 12 by adding "And provided that no Annual Conference shall elect a woman as representative to the General Conference."

The vote stands as follows : Nebraska, Iowa, Colorado, Texas, North Illinois, South Illinois, Indiana, Georgia, Ohio, Genesee, Michigan, Mississippi, Onandago and Muskingum, nay, making thirteen in all. Pittsburgh, yea. West

know, limited, the law recognizing him as the connectional officer of the Conference until the succeeding General Conference, but with no powers or prerogatives except the purely ministerial one of receiving and answering such official correspondence as may be addressed to him in the interval of the quadrennial sessions of our legislative assembly. Since the close of the last General Conference I have had a somewhat extended correspondence with the officials of the various conferences, and with individual members of the church in different sections of the country.

In the main, the correspondence grew out of differences of opinion in regard to church law or in cases where persons were not clear in reference to their duties. Always recognizing the fact that I had no authority to make a binding decision in any case, I nevertheless sought with great pains to give such advice and counsel as I deemed wise in every instance in which such matters were brought to my attention.

I have reason to believe that much good has grown out of the free interchange of views between the president of the Conference and those who sought his opinion and advice, and I believe it would be a wholesome thing for the general church if there should, in the interim of the General Conference, be a closer contact between the annual Conferences and the president of the General Conference, even though this were done simply through correspondence.

The President would be then, indeed, as the law contemplates he should be, the connectional officer of the church at large, and in consequence of this intimate relation greater uniformity in the method and work of our Annual Conferences would be secured.

I have in some instances received with regularity the minutes of Annual Conferences. I would suggest that it be the duty of the secretaries of the Annual Conferences to forward to the President of the General Conference, each year during his term, copies of the minutes of their respective Conferences. While the President has no official connection with the Annual Conferences, it would keep him advised of their

NAMES AND RESIDENCES OF REPRESENTATIVES.

(Lay members in *italics*; alternates starred).

ALABAMA CONFERENCE.

	<i>Name.</i>	<i>Postoffice.</i>	<i>State.</i>
1	J. T. Howell,	Troy,	Alabama.
2	C. B. McDaniel,	Warsaw,	"
3	J. P. Morgan,*	Speigner,	"
4	<i>Ira Champion,*</i>	Troy,	"
5	<i>O. F. Warner,</i>	Montgomery,	"
6	<i>Joseph Bell,</i>	Troy,	"

ARKANSAS CONFERENCE.

7	J. E. Lowdermilk,	Monticello,	Arkansas.
8	J. F. Nisbit,	Garlandville,	"
9	M. C. Jackson,	Buckner,	"
10	<i>A. G. Gray,</i>	Hickory Valley,	"
11	<i>J. C. Milner,</i>	Milner,	"
12	<i>E. M. Allen,</i>	Rector,	"

CENTRAL TEXAS.

13	A. S. Biddison,	Fort Worth,	Texas.
14	<i>C. Byrd,</i>	Corsicana,	"

COLORADO-TEXAS.

15	J. S. Perry,	Duffau,	Texas.
16	<i>T. J. Hammack,</i>	"	"

COLORADO-TEXAS, (COLORED).

17	J. L. Jackson,		
18	<i>J. W. Larrimore.</i>		

FORT SMITH MISSION.

19	W. S. Bartholomew,	Mansfield,	Arkansas.
20	<i>W. C. Phillips,</i>	Altus,	"

GENESEE.

21	O. P. Wildey,	Elba,	New York.
22	<i>Ira McMichael,</i>	Arkport,	"

GEORGIA.

23	F. H. M. Henderson,	Stockbridge,	Georgia.
24	R. S. McGarity,	Bowdon,	"
25	<i>J. J. Barge,</i>	Atlanta,	"
26	<i>C. O. Stubbs,</i>	Bowdon,	"

Virginia, New York, New Jersey, Maryland and North Carolina did not vote. Recapitulation: Thirteen votes in the negative, one in the affirmative, and five conferences reported as not voting.

Overture 2. Amend Article 6, Section 1, of the Constitution, as follows: Insert the words "Presidents of Christian Endeavor Societies" after Sabbath School Superintendents.

The vote stands as follows: Nebraska, Iowa, North Illinois, South Illinois, Indiana, Georgia, Ohio, West Virginia, New York, Genesee, Maryland, Michigan, Mississippi, New Jersey, Muskingum, Colorado, Texas and Pittsburgh, making seventeen, all voting affirmatively.

Overture 3. Shall the third paragraph under the head of "Station and Circuit Stewards" be changed so as to read: "The station and circuit stewards shall be elected annually in the stations by the qualified members, including ministers and preachers, and in circuits and missions by societies, each society electing its own stewards, provided that each society shall have at least one steward."

The vote stands as follows: Nebraska, Iowa, Colorado, Texas, North Illinois, South Illinois, Indiana, Georgia, Ohio, Genesee, Maryland, Michigan, Mississippi, New Jersey, Muskingum and Pittsburgh, making fifteen, all voting affirmatively.

And now, brethren, in closing these remarks, which should not be extended further, I desire to express to you, and through you to the church at large, my high appreciation of the many kindnesses which have been shown me during my official term, praying earnestly that God may continue to bless our church in the future, as in the past, only more abundantly, and that the present session of the General Conference may be distinguished for its wise legislation, for its loyalty to the principles of our denomination, and for its thorough consecration in spirit, in word and in deed, to God the Father and His Son Jesus Christ, to whom be glory and dominion forever. Amen.

Roll of certified members was called.

METHODIST PROTESTANT CHURCH.

9

	<i>Name.</i>	<i>Postoffice.</i>	<i>State.</i>
65	<i>C. W. Hobbs,</i>	Denton,	Maryland.
66	<i>C. A. Benjamin,</i>	Baltimore,	"
MICHIGAN.			
67	<i>A. C. Fuller,</i>	Disco,	Michigan.
68	<i>R. Rutledge*,</i>	Capac,	"
69	<i>A. A. Rust,</i>	Franklin,	"
70	<i>O. L. Palmer,</i>	Adrian,	"
MISSOURI.			
71	<i>J. A. Sartin,</i>	Lincoln,	Missouri.
72	<i>C. F. Barnes,</i>	Arcadia,	Kansas.
73	<i>J. F. Howe,</i>	Lincoln,	Missouri.
74	<i>F. A. Jones,</i>	Leroy,	"
MISSISSIPPI.			
75	<i>J. L. Scarborough,</i>	Bergamot,	Alabama.
76	<i>J. B. Allen,</i>	Cupaut City,	Mississippi.
MUSKINGUM.			
77	<i>J. A. Thrapp,</i>	Toronto,	Ohio.
78	<i>S. A. Fisher,</i>	Newcomerstown,	"
79	<i>W. L. Wells,</i>	West Lafayette,	"
80	<i>M. L. Jennings,</i>	Adrian,	Michigan.
81	<i>G. E. McManiman,</i>	Cambridge,	Ohio.
82	<i>D. C. Coburn,</i>	Steubenville,	"
83	<i>W. S. Cairns,</i>	Byesville,	"
84	<i>Boyd McCormick*,</i>	Toronto,	"
85	<i>M. Yingling,</i>	Newcomerstown,	"
86	<i>Theo. Purvis*,</i>	McConnelsville,	"
87	<i>W. L. Trenner,</i>	Cambridge,	"
88	<i>V. Ferguson,</i>	West Lafayette,	"
89	<i>A. M. Lyons,</i>	Steubenville,	"
90	<i>C. J. Yingling,</i>	Tiffin,	"
NORTH ILLINOIS.			
91	<i>R. E. Fox,</i>	Kasbeer,	Illinois.
92	<i>J. A. Reichard,</i>	Canton,	"
93	<i>Wm. S. Wilson,</i>	Ohio,	"
94	<i>R. M. Pollock*,</i>	Princeton,	"
NORTH MISSOURI.			
95	<i>W. S. Miller,</i>	Kahoka,	Missouri.
96	<i>J. W. Root,</i>	Galt,	"
NORTH MISSISSIPPI.			
97	<i>A. J. Richardson,</i>	Silver Springs,	Mississippi.
98	<i>R. C. Jeter,</i>	Keounville,	"
99	<i>W. C. Carter,</i>	Canaan,	"

IOWA.		
<i>Name.</i>	<i>Postoffice.</i>	<i>State.</i>
27 James Kirkwood,	Attica,	Iowa.
28 W. A. McCorkle,	Des Moines,	"
29 John F. Burdine,	Keswick,	"
30 Miles Pearson,	Collins,	"
INDIAN MISSION.		
31 W. V. Tunstall,	Galconda,	Indian Ter.
32 King Cacey,		
INDIANA.		
33 Hugh Stackhouse,	Indianapolis,	Indiana.
34 S. Heininger,	Elkhart,	"
35 J. O. Ledbetter,	Marion,	"
36 S. S. Stanton,	Elwood,	"
37 L. Boring,	Greenfield,	"
38 John Lowden,	Carrollton,	"
39 Mrs. M. A. Omo,*	Harlan,	"
40 W. W. Lineberry,	St. Joe,	"
KANSAS.		
41 E. F. St. John,	Kansas City,	Kansas.
42 T. J. Sheppard,	"	"
43 J. E. Divilbiss,	Stanley,	"
44 Mrs. J. E. Rouze,	Fort Scott,	"
MARYLAND.		
45 J. D. Kinzer,	Baltimore,	Maryland.
46 F. T. Tagg,	"	"
47 T. H. Lewis,	Westminster,	"
48 J. T. Murray,*	Baltimore,	"
49 F. T. Little,	"	"
50 W. M. Strayer,	Buckeystown,	"
51 A. D. Melvin,	Westminster,	"
52 S. B. Tredway,	Belair,	"
53 L. W. Bates,	Westminster,	"
54 J. L. Mills,	Hanesville,	"
55 W. M. Poisal,*	Easton,	"
56 J. W. Hering,	Westminster,	"
57 Daniel Baker,	Baltimore,	"
58 J. R. Caton,	Alexandria,	Virginia.
59 T. H. Bartlett,	Baltimore,	Maryland.
60 S. Vannort,	Hanesville,	"
61 J. A. Smith,	Harrington,	Delaware.
62 J. G. Coleman,	Elizabeth,	New Jersey.
63 T. A. Murray,	Baltimore,	Maryland.
64 W. J. C. Dulany,	"	"

ONONDAGA.

<i>Name.</i>	<i>Postoffice.</i>	<i>State.</i>
135 M. L. Baker,	Ilion,	New York.
136 C. W. Waterman,	Spring Lake,	"

PITTSBURGH.

137 Geo. C. Sheppard,	Sharpsburg,	Pennsylvania.
138 A. W. Robertson,	New Cumberland,	West Virginia.
139 Geo. Shaffer,	Adrian,	Michigan.
140 T. H. Colhouer,	New Brighton,	Pennsylvania.
141 W. H. Gladden,	Knoxville,	"
142 J. F. Cooper,	Alleghany,	"
143 H. M. Myers,	Beaver Falls,	"
144 G. B. Brown,	Connellsville,	"
145 T. B. Evans,	Pittsburg,	"
146 J. W. Morris,	Forduce,	"

PENNSYLVANIA.

147 J. R. Botts,	Noxen,	Pennsylvania.
148 J. R. Hay,	Auburn,	"

SOUTH CAROLINA.

149 C. M. Smith,	Cross Anchor,	South Carolina.
150 Daniel Yarborough,	"	"

SOUTH ILLINOIS.

151 J. G. Reed,*	Edgar,	Illinois.
152 M. S. Strike,	Corinth,	"

SOUTH GEORGIA (COLORED).

153 Jas. P. Tisdale,		
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ST. LOUIS.

154 A. J. Steward,	New Madrid,	Missouri.
155 H. S. Morris,	Thayer,	"

SOUTHWEST TEXAS MISSION.

156 M. C. Wilson,	Pontotoc,	Texas
157 J. M. Low,	Bond,	"

TENNESSEE.

158 S. O. Hooper,		
159 W. R. Sims,		

TEXAS.

160 J. D. Christian,	Minter,	Texas.
161 T. L. Garrison,*	Lone Oak,	"
162 J. K. Pierce,	Sulphur Bluff,	"
163 T. P. Stillwell,	Lone Oak,	"

NEBRASKA.

	<i>Name.</i>	<i>Postoffice.</i>	<i>State.</i>
100	T. J. Strickler,	Merna,	Nebraska.
101	J. S. Francis,	"	"

NEW JERSEY.

102	Wm D. Stultz,	Bridgeton,	New Jersey.
103	John H. Alger,*	Glassboro,	"
104	Edward S. Vanleer,	Manasquan,	"
105	Zachariah Patterson,	Westville,	"

NEW YORK.

106	J. H. Robinson,	Patterson,	New Jersey.
107	Fred. H. Varney,	"	"

NORTH CAROLINA.

108	W. A. Bunch,	Greensboro,	North Carolina.
109	T. J. Ogburn,	Summerfield,	"
110	J. F. McCulloch,	Greensboro,	"
111	C. A. Cecil,	Asheboro,	"
112	L. L. Albright,	Winston,	"
113	W. E. Swain,	La Grange,	"
114	T. M. Johnson,	Henderson,	"
115	A. W. Lineberry,	Greensboro,	"
116	J. F. Dozier,*	Dosier,	"
117	O. R. Cox,	Cedar Falls,	"
118	R. T. Pickens,	Lexington,	"
119	F. R. Harris,	Henderson,	"
120	A. M. Rankin,	Asheboro,	"
121	J. M. Hadley	La Grange,	"
122	W. P. Pickett,	High Point,	"
123	J. C. Roberts,	Kernesville,	"
124	J. Norman Wills,	Greensboro,	"
125	J. L. Ogburn,	Summerfield,	"

OREGON MISSION.

126 B. B. Paul,

OHIO.

127	D. S. Stevens,	Pittsburgh,	Pennsylvania.
128	T. B. Graham,	Richwood,	Ohio.
129	W. J. Elliott,	Mt. Blanchard,	"
130	J. F. Henkle,	Richwood,	"
131	C. E. Custis,	Sabina,	"
132	W. L. Bailey,	St. John's,	"
133	J. R. Vannorsdall,	Jefferson,	"
134	A. J. Vanpelt,	Port William,	"

RULES OF ORDER.

1. The Conference shall be opened at the appointed hour with religious services, under the direction of the President, or in his absence, under that of the Secretary.

2. After the religious exercises of each session, the roll shall be called by the Secretary, and the minutes of the previous session read and approved.

3. When a member desires to present any business, or to speak to any question, he shall arise and address the Chair as "Mr. President," and then pause until he is recognized by the Chair, as follows: "The representative from ————." The President in putting a question shall do it standing.

4. Any motion made and seconded, except a motion to adjourn, to lay on the table, a call for the previous question, for the yeas and nays, and for a division of the house, shall be handed to the Chair when required by the Secretary, signed by the mover and second, and be read by the Secretary before any debate is had thereon.

5. No interruption shall be suffered while a member is on the floor, but by a call to order by the Chair or some other member of the Conference. In such cases, the member making the call shall state the ground on which he makes it, and the member supposed to be out of order shall have an opportunity to explain. All questions of order shall be decided by the President, agreeably to the rules of the Conference; *provided*, however, that any member may, by obtaining a second, appeal to the Conference from the decision of the Chair; but the question thereon shall be taken without debate, after the member has stated his ground of appeal and after the President has stated his reason for the decision.

6. No member shall speak more than once on the same question, nor longer than twenty minutes, without special leave from the Conference, and he shall confine himself strictly to the subject under discussion, *provided*, however, that the chairman of a committee and the member presenting an original paper shall be entitled to make a second speech.

7. All motions or resolutions shall, at the request of any member, be divided when the sense will admit of it.

8. If two or more members rise to speak at the same time, it shall be determined by the President which of them is entitled to the floor.

9. The appointment of all committees shall be by the President, unless otherwise ordered by the Conference.

10. The number of which any committee shall be composed shall be determined by the Conference, the question being taken on the highest number first, and so on until the Conference shall determine the number.

11. Upon a call for the previous question, if made by five members and sustained by the Conference, the question shall be put without debate.

12. When a question is under debate no motion shall be entertained but to adjourn, to lay on the table, to commit, amend or postpone, which several motions have precedence in the order they stand arranged, and the first two

VIRGINIA.		
<i>Name.</i>	<i>Postoffice.</i>	<i>State.</i>
164 H. M. Peebles,	Okolona,	Tennessee.
165 <i>Ira P. Robinet,</i>	Fairview,	Virginia.
WEST MICHIGAN.		
166 W. D. Tompkinson,	Kalamazoo,	Michigan.
167 <i>J. W. Burlington,</i>	Lawton,	"
WEST VIRGINIA.		
168 M. D. Helmick,	Ritchie C. H.,	West Virginia.
169 E. J. Wilson,	Palatine,	"
170 J. A. Selby,	Wellsville,	Ohio.
171 B. Stout,	Rockford,	West Virginia.
172 M. L. Smith,	Spencer,	"
173 M. M. Everly,	Lorentz,	"
174 J. J. Mason,	Liverpool,	"
175 J. F. Cowan,	Pittsburgh,	Pennsylvania.
176 <i>Porter Maxwell,</i>	Johnstown,	West Virginia.
177 <i>A. G. Hall,</i>	Morris X Roads,	Pennsylvania.
178 <i>U. S. Fleming,</i>	Pittsburgh,	"
179 <i>John Lynn,</i>	Edora,	West Virginia.
180 <i>C. H. Smoot,</i>	Newburgh,	"
181 <i>G. W. Holswade,</i>	Spencer,	"
182 <i>J. W. Hull,</i>	Grafton,	"

A special committee of three was appointed to examine the evidence of representatives whose election had not been certified to General Conference Secretary by secretaries of electoral colleges.

On motion the report of President Hering was referred to a committee of three.

The special committee of three on evidence (not certified) of membership in General Conference was named as follows: H. Stackhouse, of Indiana; W. A. Bunch, of North Carolina, and C. J. Yingling, of Muskingum.

Ordered, That the time for opening and closing the sessions of General Conference be now fixed.

On motion, the Rules of Order of last General Conference were made the rules of this Conference.

On motion, the Conference proceeded to elect a president. The Chairman named as tellers, J. A. Selby, of West Virginia, W. D. Stultz, of New Jersey, Daniel Baker, of Maryland, and H. M. Myers, of Pennsylvania; T. B. Graham, of Ohio, nominated J. W. Hering, of Maryland, W. A. Bunch, of North Carolina, seconded the nomination; S. A. Fisher, of Ohio, nominated J. A. Thrapp, of Muskingum, G. E. McManiman, of Ohio, seconded the nomination. M. D. Helmick, of West Virginia, nominated J. J. Mason, of West Virginia, M. L. Smith, of West Virginia, seconded the nomination; J. J. Barge, of Georgia, nominated F. H. M. Henderson, of Georgia, R. S. McGarity, of Georgia, seconded the nomination; J. T. Murray, of Maryland, nominated D. S. Stephens, of Pittsburgh, Pa., J. L. Scarborough, of Mississippi, seconded the nomination; J. H. Robinson, of New York, nominated Hugh Stackhouse, of Indiana, (declined); T. H. Lewis and A. W. Robertson, seconded the nomination of J. W. Hering.

On motion, nominations were closed.

A motion to take a recess of fifteen minutes to hear the report of Special Committee on Conference roll was lost.

On motion, it was ordered that the balloting be by roll call.

George Brown was appointed teller in place of H. M. Myers, absent.

The result of the first ballot was as follows:

J. W. Hering, 54; J. A. Thrapp, 21; F. H. M. Henderson, 15; D. S. Stephens, 10; J. J. Mason, 9; H. Stackhouse, 3; W. L. Wells, 1; Total, 113; necessary to a choice, 57. No election resulted.

J. A. Thrapp and J. J. Mason withdrew. J. A. Thrapp suggested the name of M. L. Jennings as a candidate. (Declined).

On motion, representatives were requested to stand until the tellers received their votes.

The second ballot resulted as follows:

J. W. Hering, 75; D. S. Stephens, 24; F. H. M. Henderson, 9; W. L. Wells, 1; M. L. Jennings, 1; H. Stackhouse, 1;

shall be taken without debate, and a motion to adjourn shall always be in order.

13. Every member within the bar shall vote on all questions submitted to the action of the Conference, unless excused for sufficient reason.

14. No personalities shall be allowed in debate, nor improper reflections upon any religious denominations.

15. All reports of committees, when read by their respective chairmen, shall be regarded as the property of the Conference, and subject to its action.

16. Any motion to reconsider shall be made by some member who voted with the majority, and shall require a majority of the members present to sustain it; nor shall a motion to reconsider be entertained, if made later than the second day after the original action is had, except by a vote of two-thirds of the members present.

17. Any member shall have the right to call for the reading of any subject under consideration. No member shall be allowed to explain remarks made in a previous speech, except in regular debate, unless a member requests it; but any member so called upon to explain shall have the right to decline any explanation.

18. The President shall administer the rules rigidly and impartially. He shall promptly suppress unseemly demonstrations, such as stamping, clapping of hands and conversation, or other behavior which obstructs the business of the Conference.

19. Persons not members having business with the Conference shall present their business to the appropriate committees, who may, in their discretion, recommend that the persons applying be heard by the Conference, or the committee itself may bring the business, if deemed of sufficient importance, to the notice of the Conference.

20. No one shall be constituted an honorary member; but persons duly presented to the President by the Committee on Fraternal Relations, and by the President presented to the Conference, may be invited to a seat within the bar, and, by vote, may be permitted to address the Conference on any specified subject.

Ordered, That the session of Conference begin at 9 A.M. and continue until 11.30 A.M., then a recess until 1 P.M., and the session to close at the pleasure of the Conference.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Conference convened at 1 P.M.

The Committee on President's Report was named as follows: J. L. Mills, of Maryland; D. S. Stephens, of Ohio; C. B. McDaniel, of Alabama.

Kansas City, Eugenia F. St. John, and S. A. Baker. Responses by W. M. Strayer, J. F. Cowan, B. Stout, and L. W. Bates.

SECOND DAY.

Saturday Morning, May 16, 1896.

Conference called to order by the President. Devotional exercises were led by T. J. Ogburn. The roll was called and the minutes read, corrected and approved.

Moved to strike out the record made of last night's exercises. Amended so as to strike out the word "session" and insert the word "reception." Motion, as amended carried.

The standing committees were announced.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

(FIRST NAMED IS CHAIRMAN.)

1. PUBLISHING HOUSES.

W. L. Wells,
J. D. Kinzer,
J. H. Algor,
M. D. Helmick,
R. S. McGarrity,

J. R. Caton,
R. T. Pickens,
W. L. Bailey,
W. S. Wilson,
H. M. Myers.

2. BOUNDARIES.

E. J. Wilson,
F. T. Little,
S. A. Fisher,
J. S. Perry,

Z. Patterson,
A. M. Rankin,
C. Waterman.

3. REVISION.

J. T. Murray,
J. F. McCulloch,
C. B. McDaniel,
S. S. Stanton,
J. J. Mason,
Jas. Kirkwood.

J. G. Coleman,
C. J. Yingling,
G. B. Brown,
Ira Champion,
W. R. Sims,
Mrs. J. E. Rouze,

4. FRATERNAL RELATIONS.

T. J. Sheppard,
J. F. Howe,

T. H. Bartlett.

Blank, 1; Total, 112; necessary to a choice, 57. J. W. Hering having received a majority of the votes cast was declared elected.

F. T. Little nominated J. F. Cowan for Secretary, several seconds were made. Brother Cowan declined in view of having to attend to the railroad certificates. G. E. McManiman, of Muskingum, was nominated by T. H. Lewis, and seconded by J. F. Cowan; (declined). J. Norman Wills, of North Carolina, was nominated by T. J. Ogburn; T. M. Johnson, of North Carolina, was nominated by T. H. Lewis. The first ballot resulted in the choice of T. M. Johnson. The ballot was as follows: J. F. McCulloch, 17; M. D. Helmick, 5; T. M. Johnson, 64; J. Norman Wills, 11; G. E. McManiman, 2; J. F. Cowan, 1.

On motion, a recess of fifteen minutes was taken.

Committee on Pulpit Service was announced as follows: Charles H. St. John, D. S. Stephens, W. A. Morris.

The following were named as pages: Auerill Daily, Eugene Brederrow, Carl Chapin, Kansas city, Kansas, and Charles Yingling, Tiffin, Ohio.

The Special Committee on Certificates made a partial report, which was adopted as follows: We find W. V. Tunstall, minister, and King Cacey, layman, duly elected by the Electoral College of the Indian Mission Annual Conference, as messengers to this General Conference. We find R. Rutledge, duly elected ministerial representative to take the place of F. Traver, of the Michigan Conference.

HUGH STACKHOUSE,
W. A. BUNCH,
C. J. YINGLING,
Committee.

On motion Conference adjourned.

At eight o'clock in the evening a reception was tendered members of the General Conference.

The exercises were presided over by Charles H. St. John. Welcome addresses were made by K. P. Snyder, City Counsellor, C. W. Bachus, President of the ministerial Union of

13. RITUAL.

A. W. Robertson,
R. Rutledge,
J. E. Lowdermilk,

Boyd McCormick,
J. C. Roberts.

14. COMMUNICATIONS.

J. H. Robinson,
W. H. Gladden,
C. McSmith,

J. W. Burlington,
A. J. Vanpelt.

15. SABBATH.

B. Stout,
H. M. Peeples,
S. Heininger,

O. L. Palmer,
W. P. Pickett.

16. TEMPERANCE.

M. C. Jackson,
F. T. Tagg,
J. R. Botts,

Theo. Purvis,
J. S. Francis.

17. FINANCE.

A. C. Fuller,
J. O. Ledbetter,
W. S. Cairns,

J. K. Pierce,
C. E. Custis.

18. HOME MISSIONS.

J. F. Henkle,
J. D. Kinzer,
M. M. Everly,
R. E. Fox,

O. F. Warner,
J. J. Barge,
A. N. Pierce.

19. YOUNG PEOPLE'S SOCIETIES.

W. D. Stultz,
J. F. Cowan,
G. E. McManiman,

F. R. Harris,
J. G. Coleman.

20. CERTIFICATES.

T. J. Ogburn,
C. B. McDaniel,
J. H. Algor,
S. S. Stanton,

J. T. Cooper,
Joseph Bell,
A. A. Rust.

On motion, J. A. Thrapp was relieved from serving on the Committee on Sabbath.

By consent the president was permitted to reconstruct the list of committees wherever necessary.

5. JUDICIARY.

L. W. Bates,
M. L. Jennings,
C. A. Cecil,
J. L. Scarborough,

V. Ferguson,
J. L. Ogburn,
G. W. Holswade.

6. SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

J. A. Reichard,
W. M. Poisal,
G. E. McManiman,

Fred. Varney,
Jas. R. Hay.

7. STATISTICS.

T. H. Colhouer,
J. L. Mills,
D. C. Coburn,

C. O. Stubbs,
J. W. Hull.

8. EDUCATION.

H. Stackhouse,
W. M. Strayer,
G. C. Sheppard,
J. A. Selby,
W. A. McCorkle,

T. A. Murray,
F. R. Harris,
J. R. Vannorsdall,
Daniel Yarborough.

9. MINISTERIAL EDUCATION.

F. H. M. Henderson,
A. D. Melvin,
W. D. Tomkinson,
George Shaffer,
E. F. St. John,

Daniel Baker,
E. M. Allen,
M. Yingling,
John Linn,
T. B. Evans.

10. FOREIGN MISSIONS.

W. A. Bunch,
S. B. Tredway,
M. L. Smith,
J. F. Dozier,
J. G. Reed,

C. A. Benjamin,
J. F. Burdine,
J. M. Hadley,
A. J. Gray,
A. M. Lyon.

11. JOURNALS.

T. J. Strickler,
W. J. Elliott,
J. A. Reichard,
S. O. Hooper,
J. D. Christian,

C. Byrd.
William Ewing,
W. L. Trenner,
Miles Pearson,
Mrs. M. A. Omo.

12. COURSE OF STUDY.

J. T. Howell,
D. S. Stephens,
T. H. Lewis,
A. W. Lineberry,

U. S. Fleming,
R. M. Pollock,
J. M. Morris.

A motion to reconsider the action, ordering that all papers be referred to the proper committees without reading was lost.

A paper contemplating a change in the Discipline, on page 21, with reference to the composition of Annual Conferences, was about to be referred to the Committee on Revision; T. H. Lewis moved that the paper be referred to the Committee on Publishing Houses. On motion of F. T. Little, as a substitute, the paper was referred to the Committee on Revision.

The following were introduced to the Conference: O. P. Wright, J. W. Moore, W. C. Coleman, J. W. Osborne, J. G. Dougherty.

A manuscript by John Scott was submitted by T. H. Colhouer, and, on motion, referred to a Special Committee.

A paper was submitted and referred to the Committee on Course of Study.

A paper was referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

On motion, the order of business used by the General Conference of 1892 was adopted as the Order of Business for this General Conference.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Calling Roll.
2. Reading Minutes of Preceding Sessions.
3. Receiving Reports.
4. Receiving Memorials and Propositions.
5. Taking Up Reports.
6. Incidental Business.

A paper was referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

A paper was referred to the Committee on Sunday-schools.

On motion, J. S. Perry was requested to submit, in writing, certain changes he desired made in the Discipline.

An invitation from H. J. Heinz to attend a banquet was presented by D. S. Stephens, whereupon the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That, an invitation having been received from H. J. Heinz, President of the Board of Trustees of the Kansas City University, to attend a banquet and reception, at the Midland Hotel, on Monday evening, the Confer-

The following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, That Conference adjourn to day at 12.30 P.M. until 9 A.M. Monday.

Resolved, That the Committees on Sunday Schools, Course of Study, Sabbath, Temperance, Young People's Societies, and Certificates be requested to report on Monday morning. T. H. LEWIS.

The Committee on Article of Faith, to which a report was recommitted by the General Conference of 1892, made report. Moved by J. A. Thrapp to refer this report to Committee on Revision. Moved by T. H. Lewis, as a substitute, that the report be adopted. A. W. Robertson, Pittsburgh, spoke. Previous questions was called for and sustained. The substitute carried and the report was declared adopted. (Report 1.)

Report of the Board of Publication was submitted and referred to the Committee on Publishing Houses.

Memorial from Georgia Conference was submitted and referred to Committee on Boundaries.

Memorial from Mississippi Conference was submitted and referred.

Paper by J. T. Murray was referred to Committee on Revision.

On motion it was ordered that all papers be referred to the proper Committees without reading.

Papers were submitted and referred as follows: By J. L. Mills, to Committee on Revision; to Committee on Revision; to Committee on Sunday-schools; to Committee on Boundaries; to Committee on Revision; to Committee on Revision.

A motion that any person presenting a paper shall explain its contents before the paper be referred was lost.

A. J. Heinz, of Pittsburgh, J. C. Berrien, Secretary of the Board of Ministerial Education, D. C. Thomas, President of Adrian College, and G. B. McElroy, were introduced to the Conference, and, on motion, were invited to seats within the bar.

A motion to grant the request of J. L. Mills, that a paper presented by him be taken from the Secretary's table and returned to him was lost.

CENTRAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH.—11 A.M., J. H. Robinson; 8 P.M., J. C. Berrien.

GORDON PLACE METHODIST PROTESTANT CHURCH.—11 A.M., Hugh Stackhouse; 8 P.M., S. A. Fisher.

EDGERTON PLACE BAPTIST CHURCH.—11 A.M., J. F. McCulloch; 8 P.M., F. H. M. Henderson.

CENTRAL METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.—11 A.M., T. J. Ogburn; 8 P.M., T. B. Graham.

STEWART AVENUE METHODIST PROTESTANT CHURCH.—11 A.M., M. L. Jennings; 8 P.M., M. D. Helmick.

PEOPLE'S METHODIST PROTESTANT CHURCH.—11 A.M., L. W. Bates; 8 P.M., T. H. Lewis.

BLIND ASYLUM —3 P.M., F. T. Little.

On motion, the election of the general officers of the Church was made the order of the day for Monday, the 18th, at 2 o'clock P.M.

A paper was referred to the Committee on Education.

On motion, it was ordered to appoint a special committee to consider a claim of the Pennsylvania Conference against the New York Conference.

Mr. Rouze was introduced to the Conference.

The President announced that, J. A. Thrapp having been excused from the Chairmanship of the Committee on Sabbath, B. Stout will act as Chairman of this Committee, and that S. Heininger had been added to the Committee.

Papers were referred as follows: to Committee on Revision, to Committee on Revision, to Committee on Boundaries.

G. F. Hinshaw was introduced to the Conference.

A paper was referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

A paper was referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

Conference adjourned with the benediction by L. W. Bates at 12.30 P.M., to meet Monday at 9 A.M.

THIRD DAY.

Monday Morning, May 18, 1896.

Conference opened with President Hering in the Chair. Devotional exercises were led by J. J. Mason, of West Virginia, and S. B. Treadway, of Maryland.

ence would hereby record its appreciation of the generous invitation and express the hope that by the attendance of every member of the Conference we may be able to indicate our acceptance of the invitation with hearty unanimity.

T. H. LEWIS,
DANIEL BAKER.

On motion, the bar of Conference was fixed to include the seventh pew from the front.

On motion, J. A. Selby was made Postmaster of the Conference.

The President announced that J. T. Murray will take the place of T. B. Graham, as Chairman of the Committee on Revision.

Rev. Drs. Bachus, Mendenhall and Richardson were introduced to the Conference.

A paper was referred to the Committee on Revision.

An invitation from the Board of Trustees of Kansas City University to attend the laying of the corner stone of the University, next Tuesday afternoon, was accepted.

A motion to reconsider the action of the Conference fixing the time of meeting and adjournment was lost.

Representatives of the Methodist Episcopal Church, the Methodist Episcopal Church South, and the First Presbyterian Church kindly tendered the use of their respective church buildings for the meetings of committees.

Rev. Mr. Fray and Rev. Mr. Price were introduced to the Conference.

The Committee on Pulpit Service reported as follows:

SUNDAY SERVICES, MAY 17, 1896.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.—11 A.M., W. M. Strayer; 8 P.M., F. T. Tagg.

WASHINGTON AVENUE M. E. CHURCH.—11 A.M., J. T. Murray; 8 P.M., J. F. Cowan.

ARMOURDALE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.—11 A.M., Benjamin Stout; 8 P.M., W. D. Stultz.

GRANDVIEW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.—11 A.M., A. D. Melvin; 8 P.M., A. W. Robertson.

LONDON HEIGHTS METHODIST PROTESTANT CHURCH.—11 A.M., E. J. Wilson; 8 P.M., W. S. Davenport.

The Report of the Committee on Temperance was taken up. Moved to adopt as reported. Amended by striking out the words "beg leave to" at the beginning of report. Further amended by adding the recommendation that the fourth Sabbath in November be observed as Temperance Day in our Sunday-Schools. Report adopted as amended. (Report 3.)

The President announced committees as follows: On difference between the New York and the Pennsylvania Conferences, W. M. Strayer, M. L. Baker, R. S. McGarrity, M. Yingling, H. M. Myers. Also that James Kirkwood was placed on the Committee on Revision instead of A. S. Biddison, and that J. A. Reichard was added to the Committee on Fraternal Relations.

Special Committee on the Manuscript by John Scott, T. H. Colhouer, J. F. McCulloch and J. W. Hull.

The report of the Committee on Certificates was submitted.

On motion the consideration of this report was made the order of the day for 10 A.M., to-morrow, Tuesday the 19th.

The following resolution was submitted:

Resolved, That the President of the General Conference appoint a committee of five to revise the smaller Catechism, whose work shall be submitted to the Board of Publication, and, if approved by them, be published in pamphlet form, and also in the S. S. lesson papers.

T. H. LEWIS.

Moved to amend by requiring this Committee to report to the next General Conference.

Amendment lost.

The resolution was adopted as presented.

Moved that the Committee consist of three.

Moved to amend by making the number five.

Amendment carried.

A motion that the President be requested to make John Scott the chairman of this Committee was lost.

Moved that the forenoon session be extended to 12.30 P.M.

By consent action was suspended to introduce to the Conference the following: John Dernaud, W. I. Davenport, Lee

The roll was called and the minutes read, corrected and approved.

The Committee on Sunday-Schools reported.

The Committee on Temperance submitted its report.

The Special Committee on Certificates made a partial report, which was adopted, as follows: "We recommend that the name of J. W. Larrimore be enrolled as a lay messenger from the Colorado-Texas Mission Conference (colored), he having presented a certificate in due form."

The following papers were submitted and referred: By M. L. Baker and C. W. Waterman, to the Committee on Revision; by Wm. D. Thompson and J. W. Burlington, to the Committee on Revision; by J. F. Cowan, to the Committee on Temperance; the account of J. F. Cowan as secretary of the Conference, to the Committee on Finance; by J. W. Burlington, to the Committee on Boundaries; by M. C. Jackson, to the Committee on Judiciary; by M. C. Jackson, to the Committee on Revision; by James Kirkwood, to the Committee on Revision; by J. T. Murray, to the Committee on Revision; by J. T. Murray, to the Committee on Revision; by Jas. R. Hay, to the Committee on Revision; by J. S. Perry, to Committee on Revision; by F. T. Little and J. A. Selby, to Committee on Revision; by J. R. Vannorsdall, to the Committee on Revision; by T. J. Strickler, to the Committee on Revision; by R. Rutledge, to the Committee on Revision; report of the president of Western Maryland College, to the Committee on Education; by R. Rutledge and J. J. Barge, to the Committee on Revision; report of the Board of Foreign Missions, to the Committee on Foreign Missions.

The Report of the Committee on Sunday-Schools was taken up and, on motion, considered *seriatim*. On motion, Item 1 was referred to Committee on Publishing Houses. Moved to adopt Item 2. On motion the item was so amended as to require the Superintendent to review that part of catechism to the school. Item adopted as amended. On motion Item 3 was referred to the Board of Publication. The report was adopted as a whole. (Report 2.)

motion to postpone further action upon this report and make it the order of the day for some future time was lost. Moved to adopt item 3. Lost. On motion, the word "Catholic" was taken out of the Apostles' Creed. Moved to have the phrase read: "I believe in the Holy Christian Church." Moved to amend by having it read: "Holy Apostolic Church." Amendment laid on the table. (Report 5.)

The order of the day having arrived, it was declared to be in order to elect the general officers of the church. On motion, the election was postponed and made the order of the day for 10 A.M. Wednesday.

Moved and carried to adjourn.

By consent a motion was entertained to the effect that the Secretary acknowledge an invitation to attend the annual commencement of the Scarritt Bible and Training School.

Conference adjourned.

FOURTH DAY.

Tuesday Morning May 19, 1896.

Conference convened at 9 A.M., with the President in the chair. J. F. Henkle, of the Ohio Conference, led the devotional exercises, assisted by S. B. Treadway, of Maryland.

On motion, the calling of the roll was dispensed with. The minutes were read, corrected and approved.

The minutes of the Southern Texas Mission Conference and the Journal of the Northwest Texas Conference were submitted and referred to the Committee on Journals.

The report of the Committee on the President's report and suggestions was submitted and, on motion, was adopted. (Report 6.)

On motion, it was ordered to publish in the church papers the President's report and suggestions, together with the report of the committee to which it had been referred.

A paper by T. H. Lewis was referred to the Committee on Revision.

Anna Starr, A. H. Widney, Charles Ott, Matilda McBride, Miss J. R. Whetstone.

Motion to extend the session to 12.30 P.M. was lost.

On motion, the session was extended to allow sufficient time to distribute tickets for the banquet this evening.

The report of the Board of Ministerial Education was submitted and referred to the Committee on Ministerial Education.

Conference took a recess until 1.30.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Conference resumed business, with the President in the chair.

Papers were referred as follows: By H. B. Cox, to Committee on Boundaries; by E. M. Allen, to Committee on Boundaries; from Oregon Mission Conference, to Committee on Boundaries; from G. B. McElroy, to Committee on Education; from the Charleston Mission Conference, to the Committee on Statistics; by S. S. Stanton, to Committee on Ritual; by S. S. Stanton, to Committee on Revision; from Florida Mission Conference, to Committee on Journals.

A motion to adjourn was lost.

Minutes of the Japan Mission Conference submitted and referred to the Committee on Foreign Missions.

Papers were referred as follows: From Samuel M. Johnson, to the Committee on Judiciary; from Edward Reisler, to the Committee on Revision; to the Committee on Ministerial Education.

F. T. Little, on behalf of H. J. Heinz, presented to the President of the Conference a gavel made in Jerusalem, of olive wood from the Mount of Olives. At the suggestion of President Hering, the Conference arose in accepting the gift.

A paper by J. K. Pierce was referred to the Committee on Revision.

The Committee on Revision made a partial report. On motion, item 1 was recommitted. Item 2 was adopted. A

Motion carried adopting the report. (Report 4).

The order of business was suspended to allow J. T. Murray, of Maryland, to submit a paper. (Overture 1).

A motion to refer the paper to the Committee on Judiciary was lost.

The time for the noon recess had arrived, but by consent a motion was made to the effect that an evening session be held, commencing at 7.30 P.M.

Motion carried.

A paper by A. S. Biddison was referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

Conference took a recess until 7.30 P.M. in order to attend the laying of the corner-stone of Kansas City University.

EVENING SESSION.

Conference resumed, with the President in the chair.

The overture concerning women as representatives to the General Conference and their eligibility to elders' orders, which was before the Conference at adjournment, was taken up. J. L. Scarborough, of Mississippi, moved to lay the paper on the table indefinitely. J. T. Murray, of Maryland, called for a vote by yeas and nays, which call was sustained. The motion to lay on the table was lost. The vote was as follows:

ALABAMA.

J. T. Howell.....no,	O. F. Warner.....no,
C. B. McDaniel.....no,	Ira Champion.....no.
J. P. Morgan.....no,	

ARKANSAS.

J. E. Lowdermilk.....aye,	A. J. Gray.....no,
M. C. Jackson.....no,	E. M. Allen.....no.

COLORADO-TEXAS.

J. S. Perry.....no.

GENESSEE.

Ira McMichael.....no,

GEORGIA.

F. H. M. Henderson.....no,	J. J. Barge.....aye,
R. S. McGarity.....no,	C. O. Stubbs.....no.

On motion, the order of business was suspended to consider a resolution offered by T. H. Lewis.

On motion, the Order of the day was suspended for five minutes.

The previous question was called for and sustained.

The resolution, which was as follows, was adopted :

Resolved, That the Standing Committees of Foreign Missions, Home Missions and on Ministerial Education, be instructed to make such changes in the constitution of the various boards as will constitute the Corresponding Secretary of each Board the Treasurer thereof, in lieu of the present arrangement, and that he be required to bond, at the expense of the Board, in the sum of not less than \$5,000.

T. H. LEWIS.

By consent Charles H. St. John made an appeal on behalf of O. V. W. Chandler, requesting that \$300 be raised for his relief.

On motion, the order of the day was suspended, and the amount called for was secured.

On motion, it was ordered to appoint a committee to bear the sympathy of this Conference to Brother Chandler in his affliction.

The following were introduced to the Conference : Mrs. D. S. Stephens, Mrs. J. D. Anderson, Mrs. T. H. Colhouer, Mrs. Henry Hupfield, Mrs. Annie Wragg, Mrs. A. H. Widney, Miss Anna L. Forrest, Mrs. F. A. Brown, members of the Woman's Foreign Mission Society; also S. Warner, H. S. Church, D. Young, J. M. Baker, G. Z. Jackson, A. H. Powell, G. S. Yarborough, E. S. Brown, J. M. Mayall, S. A. Smith, J. L. Jackson, M. Collins, D. McClellan.

It was declared the order of the day to take up and consider the Report of the Committee on Certificates.

Moved to adopt the report.

Moved and carried to amend by substituting the word "Representatives" for the word "Delegates."

Moved to further amend by striking out the word "constitutionally."

Previous question called for and sustained to vote on the adoption of the report without this last amendment.

NORTH MISSOURI.

J. W. Root.....aye.

NORTH MISSISSIPPI.

A. J Richardson.....aye.

NEBRASKA.

T. J. Strickler.....aye, J. S. Francis.....aye.

NEW JERSEY.

W. D. Stultz.....no, Zachariah Patterson.....no.
John H. Algor.....no,

NEW YORK.

J. H. Robinson.....no, Fred. H. Varney.....no.

NORTH CAROLINA.

W. A. Bunch.....no, R. T. Pickens.....no,
T. J. Ogburn.....no, F. R. Harris.....no,
J. F. McCulloch.....aye, A. M. Rankin.....no,
C. A. Cecil.....no, J. Norman Wills.....no,
T. M. Johnson.....no, J. L. Ogburn.....no.
J. F. Dozier.....no,

OHIO.

D. S. Stephens.....no, J. R. Vannorsdall.....no,
W. J. Elliott.....no, A. J. Vanpelt.....no.
J. F. Henkle.....no, C. E. Curtis.....no,
W. L. Bailey.....aye,

ONONDAGA.

M. L. Baker.....no, C. W. Waterman.....aye.

PITTSBURGH.

G. C. Sheppard.....no, J. F. Cooper.....aye,
A. W. Robertson.....no, H. M. Myers.....aye,
George Shaffer.....no, C. B. Brown.....no,
T. H. Colhouer.....no, T. B. Evans.....no.
W. H. Gladden.....no,

PENNSYLVANIA.

J. R. Botts.....aye, J. R. Hay.....aye.

SOUTH ILLINOIS.

J. G. Reed.....aye.

TENNESSEE.

W. R. Sims.....aye.

IOWA.

James Kirkwood.....aye,	John F. Burdine .....aye,
W. A. McCorkle.....aye,	Miles Pearson.....aye.

INDIANA.

S. Heininger.....no.	L. Boring.....no,
J. O. Ledbetter... ..aye,	Wm. Ewing .....aye.
S. S. Stanton.....aye,	

KANSAS.

T. J. Sheppard.....aye,	Mrs. J. E. Rouze.....aye.
J. E. Divilbiss .....aye,	

MARYLAND.

J. D. Kinzer.....no,	J. W. Hering.....no,
F. T. Tagg .....no,	Daniel Baker .....no,
T. H. Lewis.....no,	J. R. Caton .....no,
J. T. Murray .....no,	T. H. Bartlett .....no,
F. T. Little.....no,	J. G. Coleman.....no,
W. M. Strayer .....aye,	T. A. Murray.....no,
S. B. Treadway.....aye,	C. A. Benjamin.....no.
L. W. Bates.....no,	
J. L. Mills.....no,	
W. M. Poisal.....no,	

MICHIGAN.

A. C. Fuller.....no,	A. A. Rust.....aye.
R. Rutledge.....aye,	

MISSOURI.

C. F. Barnes.....aye,	F. A. Jones .....aye.
J. F. Howe.....aye,	

MISSISSIPPI.

J. L. Scarborough.....aye.

MUSKINGUM.

J. A. Thrapp.....aye,	Boyd McCormick.....aye,
S. A. Fisher.....aye,	M. Yingling.....aye,
M. L. Jennings.....no,	Theodore Purvis.....no,
G. E. McManiman .....aye,	W. L. Trenner.....aye,
D. C. Coburn.....aye,	A. M. Lyons.....aye,
W. S. Cairnes.....aye.	C. J. Yingling.....aye.

NORTH ILLINOIS.

R. E. Fox.....no,	R. M. Pollock.....no.
J. A. Reichard .....no,	

The Committee on Young Peoples' Societies of Christian Endeavor submitted its report.

The Special Committee on difference between the New York and the Pennsylvania Conferences reported.

By consent, the order of business was suspended, and, on motion, it was ordered that the chairman and secretaries of the Committees on Home Missions, Foreign Missions, and Ministerial Education be a committee to make the changes in the constitution of the various Boards, ordered by adopting the resolution of T. H. Lewis.

A paper by A. J. Vanpelt, concerning the location of the Board of Home Missions, was referred to the Special Committee, composed of the chairmen and secretaries of the Committees on Home Missions, Foreign Missions and Ministerial Education.

Papers by J. T. Howell, relating to changes in the Ritual of the Lord's Supper and Infant Baptism, were referred to the Committee on Ritual.

On motion, the manuscript of three books, by E. Mather, was referred to the Board of Publication.

A paper by B. Stout, concerning certain colored churches, was referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

A paper by S. Heininger, concerning the standing of church members, was referred to the Committee on Revision.

A paper by R. Rutledge, concerning the election of Sunday-school superintendents and class-leaders, was referred to the Committee on Revision.

A paper by J. H. Robinson was referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

A paper by T. J. Ogburn was referred to the Committee on Revision.

A paper by James K. Pierce, concerning the reception of members, was referred to the Committee on Revision.

The report of the Committee on Revision was again taken up. Item 1 had been recommitted; by permission it was now withdrawn. Item 4 was adopted. Moved to adopt item 5. (Report 5.)

TEXAS.

J. D. Christian.....no, J. K. Pierce.....no.
T. Z. Garrison.....no,

WEST MICHIGAN.

W. D. Tompkinson.....no, J. W. Burlingtonaye.

WEST VIRGINIA.

M. D. Helmick.....no, U. S. Fleming.....aye,
E. J. Wilson.....aye, G. W. Holswade.....no,
J. A. Selby.....no, L. W. Squires.....no,
B. Stout.....aye,
M. L. Smith.....no,
M. M. Everlyno,
J. J. Mason.....aye,
J. F. Cowan.....aye.

W. M. Strayer stated that, he having tried to get the wording changed and failed, voted, aye. S. B. Treadway having received no instructions from his Conference voted according to his judgement, aye. D. S. Stephens wants the question settled after fair discussion, hence voted, no. W. J. Elliott stated that the remarks of Dr. Stephens explains his vote also.

J. A. Thrapp's motion to adjourn was lost. After further discussion, W. S. Cairns moved to adjourn. Lost.

The previous question was called for by T. H. Colhouer, and others, and sustained.

The paper was adopted by a vote of 69 to 57. (Overture 1.)

Conference adjourned.

FIFTH DAY.

Wednesday Morning, May 20, 1896.

Conference opened at 9 A. M., with President Hering in the chair. Devotional exercises were conducted by T. H. Colhouer, of the Pittsburg Conference.

Calling the roll was dispensed with. The minutes were read, corrected and approved.

The Committee on Ministerial Education reported.

On motion, the Secretary cast the ballot of the Conference for J. F. Cowan, and he was declared elected.

On motion, the Conference proceeded to elect the Secretary and Treasurer of the Board of Foreign Missions. A. D. Melvin and T. J. Ogburn were placed in nomination, the former by F. T. Tagg, of Maryland, the latter by M. D. Helmick, of West Virginia. The ballot was as follows: A. D. Melvin, 36; T. J. Ogburn, 93; J. H. Robinson, 1. Total, 130; necessary to a choice, 66. T. J. Ogburn, having received a majority of the votes cast, was declared elected.

Moved and carried that the Conference now proceed to elect the Secretary and Treasurer of the Board of Ministerial Education, and that the Secretary cast the ballot of the Conference for J. C. Berrien. The ballot was cast, and J. C. Berrien declared elected.

J. T. Murray, rising to a question of privilege, stated that by eliminating the first resolution introductory to the overture adopted last evening, there was no intention to question the relation to this Conference of the women whose names had been placed on the roll of membership by the Secretary. On motion, the representatives of the press were requested to make this fact prominent in their reports.

The President laid before the Conference the Act of the General Assembly of Maryland incorporating the General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church. (Report 9.)

On motion, Z. Patterson was excused from the remaining sessions of the Conference.

Conference took a recess until 1 o'clock.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Conference resumed at 1 o'clock, with President Hering in the chair.

A communication from Seattle, Washington, was referred to the Committee on Home Missions.

A communication from R. C. Brown, Wilmington, Del., concerning the reorganization of a colored conference in Delaware and vicinity was referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

The order of the day having arrived, the election of the general officers of the Church was declared to be in order. W. D. Stultz and J. J. Barge were appointed tellers. Moved and carried to elect the editor of the *Methodist Recorder*. M. L. Jennings, George C. Sheppard (declined), A. W. Robertson, A. H. Widney, S. A. Baker, J. F. Cowan, H. Stackhouse, D. S. Stephens (declined), were placed in nomination. D. S. Stephens stated that as he had accepted the chancellorship of Kansas City University he could not consent for his name to be used.

The first ballot was as follows: M. L. Jennings, 44; A. W. Robertson, 29; J. F. Cowan, 29; H. Stackhouse, 13; A. H. Widney, 11; D. S. Stephens, 3; S. A. Baker, 2. Total, 131; required to elect, 66; no election.

The second ballot: M. L. Jennings, 60; J. F. Cowan, 34; A. H. Robertson, 25; H. Stackhouse, 6; A. H. Widney, 5; S. A. Baker, 1; D. S. Stephens, 1. Total, 132; necessary to elect, 67; no election. H. Stackhouse expressed a desire that no further ballots be cast for him.

W. M. Poisal and U. S. Fleming were named as additional tellers.

Third ballot: M. L. Jennings, 73; J. F. Cowan, 38; A. W. Robertson, 14; A. H. Widney, 1; S. A. Baker, 1; D. S. Stephens, 1; Blank, 1. Total, 129; necessary for election, 65. M. L. Jennings, having received a majority of the votes cast, was declared elected.

Moved and carried to elect the editor of the *Methodist Protestant*. F. T. Tagg was nominated. The ballot was as follows: F. T. Tagg, 109; J. T. Murray, 8; T. H. Lewis, 2; F. H. M. Henderson, 1; S. B. Treadway, 1; Daniel Baker, 1; J. H. Robinson, 1; Blank, 1. Total, 124; necessary to a choice, 63. F. T. Tagg, having received a majority of the votes cast, was declared elected.

On motion, the morning session was continued until 12 o'clock.

A motion to proceed to elect the editor of the Sunday-school literature prevailed.

By permission, the following papers were submitted and referred: From S. L. Woody, of St. Louis, Mo., concerning the establishment of a church in that city, to the Committee on Home Missions; from A. J. Richardson, concerning the line between the Mississippi, the North Mississippi and the Alabama Conferences, to the Committee on Boundaries; from M. L. Smith, S. B. Treadway and F. T. Little, concerning the duties of stewards, to the Committee on Revision.

The result of the ballot for the Pittsburgh Agent was as follows: U. S. Fleming, 97; R. D. Sheppard, 16; W. J. C. Dulany, 1. Total, 114; necessary to a choice, 58. U. S. Fleming, having received a majority of the votes cast, was declared elected.

T. H. Lewis brought to the attention of the Conference his motion, action upon which had been suspended until the election of general officers should be ended, namely, to insert the word "Catholic" in the Apostles' Creed. Moved to amend by having the phrase to read, "The Holy Catholic Church," each word in this phrase to begin with a capital letter. Moved to amend by striking out the phrase "Holy Church." On motion, the whole matter was laid on the table.

Conference took a recess until 7.30.

EVENING SESSION.

Conference resumed, with the President in the chair.

By permission, a paper was introduced to the effect that a committee of seven on revision be appointed, to stand for four years, and report to the next General Conference. Moved to postpone indefinitely. Previous question called for and sustained. Motion to postpone was carried.

On motion, the order of business was suspended in order to change Rule 6. On motion, this rule was so changed as to allow members to speak only five minutes instead of twenty.

On motion, action on the report of the Committee on Revision was postponed until 9.30 to-morrow morning.

It was announced that the members of Conference will be expected to attend the laying of the corner-stone of Kansas

Moved to hold a night session, to begin at 7.30. Moved to amend by putting the hour at 8 o'clock. Lost. Original motion carried.

By consent, item 3 of the report of the Committee on Revision was brought up for action, and a motion, made by T. H. Lewis, to insert the word "Catholic" in the Apostles' Creed. On motion, action was deferred until the election of the general officers of the church should be completed.

By consent, a motion was made to make the selection of the place for holding the next General Conference the order of the day for 10 A.M. to-morrow. Carried.

On motion, Conference proceeded to elect the secretary and treasurer of the Board of Home Missions.

By consent, the President announced as a Committee on Revision of Catechism, report to be submitted to the Board of Publication, J. F. Cowan, J. L. Mills, H. Stackhouse, F. R. Harris and Chas. J. Yingling.

The President also announced as a committee to bear sympathy to O. V. W. Chandler, F. T. Tagg, G. E. McManiman and Chas. J. Yingling.

The following were nominated for secretary and treasurer of the Board of Home Missions: B. Stout, J. F. Henkle, S. A. Fisher, J. A. Reichard. The ballot was as follows: B. Stout, 72; S. A. Fisher, 26; J. A. Reichard, 12; J. F. Henkle, 11; A. D. Melvin, 1; blank, 1. Total, 123. Required for a choice, 62. B. Stout, having received a majority of the votes cast, was declared elected.

On motion, the Conference entered upon the election of Publishing Agent for the Baltimore Book Concern. W. J. C. Dulany was nominated. The ballot was as follows: W. J. C. Dulany, 81; W. M. Strayer, 9; A. D. Melvin, 3; blank, 2; U. S. Fleming, 1; J. C. Berrien, 1. Total, 98. Necessary to a choice, 50. W. J. C. Dulany, having received a majority of the votes cast, was declared elected.

On motion, the election of Publishing Agent for the Pittsburgh Book Concern was entered upon. U. S. Fleming and R. D. Sheppard were placed in nomination.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to prepare the Journal for publication, and arrange for the printing of it.

J. T. MURRAY,
J. A. THRAPP.

A motion to the effect that this Conference shall not act upon any item relating to changes in the Book of Discipline, unless concurred in by the Committee on Revision, and that said committee shall recommend the reference of all items not concurred in to the Committee of Seven on Revision, was lost.

The report of the Committee on Revision was again taken up. Items 5 and 6 were referred to the Committee of Seven on Revision. Item 7 was adopted. (Report 5.)

On motion, the order of the day to select the place for the meeting of the next General Conference was postponed.

On motion, a committee to bear greetings of the Conference to the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, now holding its annual session in this city, was appointed, as follows: A. D. Melvin, Eugenia F. St. John and D. S. Stephens.

It was ordered that no new matter be referred to the Committee on Revision after to-day's recess.

The following papers were submitted and referred: Two by Ira Champion, to Committee on Revision; one each by S. Heininger, James Kirkwood, O. F. Warner, to Committee on Revision; by T. J. Strickler, to Committee on Judiciary; by T. H. Colhouer, to Committee on Publishing Houses.

The report of Committee on Revision was again taken up. Under item 8, (a) was adopted; (b) and (c), referred to the Committee of Seven on Revision; (d), adopted. Item 10 was referred to the Committee of Seven on Revision. Item 11 was adopted. Item 12 was referred to the Committee of Seven on Revision. Item 13 was withdrawn. Item 14 was sent to the Committee on Ritual. Under item 15, (a), (b), (c), (d) and (e), were adopted; (g) was sent to the Committee on Ritual. Items 16 and 17 were referred to the Committee of Seven on Revision. Items 18, 19 and 20 were adopted. Item 21 was withdrawn. Item 22 was adopted.

City University, Saturday afternoon, at 2.30 o'clock. This exercise having been postponed from Tuesday on account of rain. On motion, it was decided that, in case the weather should prevent this ceremony, a session of Conference should be held.

On motion, it was ordered that a committee be appointed to prepare an order of business for Annual Conferences, to be published in the Discipline, and to be recommended to all the Annual Conferences, but left optional with them as to whether they shall use it.

Conference adjourned.

SIXTH DAY.

Thursday Morning, May 21, 1896.

Conference opened, with President Hering in the chair. Devotional exercises were conducted by S. Heininger, of Indiana.

Roll call was dispensed with. Minutes were read, corrected and approved.

On motion, the order of business was suspended to allow J. T. Murray to offer the following paper, which was adopted:

Resolved, That a committee of seven, members of this body, be appointed as a committee of revision, the President to be one of the seven and chairman of the committee. To it be assigned the duty of a thorough examination of the Discipline during the period intervening between this and the next General Conference, with a view to putting in form and reporting such matters of revision as may appear to it necessary to the next General Conference. Three months prior to the meeting of the next General Conference the committee shall publish in our church papers such changes as it shall have concluded to be expedient to be made. All items of revision which have been or may be presented for consideration at this session, and not adopted or rejected before the close of this session, shall be placed in the hands of this committee for further consideration.

Resolved, That, in anticipation of a more complete revision of the Discipline at the next General Conference, and in view of the few changes made at this session, there be no new edition of the Discipline ordered, and in lieu of a new edition, the changes which have been made, in addition to their publication in the Journal, shall be printed on leaves corresponding in size with the pages of the Discipline and be given to all purchasers of the Journal or copies of the Discipline.

Resolved, That an Overture be sent down to the Conferences, requesting them to authorize a change in Article 8, Section 1, so as to read:

There shall be a General Conference of this Church on the third Friday in May, in the year of our Lord 1900, and on the third Friday in May in every sixth year thereafter, in such place as the Conference may determine.

F. T. TAGG,
BENJAMIN STOUT,
W. A. BUNCH,
L. W. BATES.

Moved to fix next Monday as the time of adjournment.
Moved to fix the time to-morrow night. On motion, laid on the table.

On motion, the matter of determining the place for holding the next General Conference was referred to the President of the General Conference and the Board of Publication.

The following were introduced to the Conference: L. C. Sappenfield, Oliver Lowther, D. G. Shirer, W. Sparks, J. L. McCay.

A paper from Pittsburgh, concerning the order of public worship, was referred to the Committee on Ritual.

On motion, the report of the Committee on Publishing Houses was taken up. Moved to adopt the report, except item 10. Previous question called for and sustained. Moved to adopt, except item 10, carried. Moved to adopt item 10. A substitute was offered authorizing the Board of Publication to appoint a committee to revise the indexes of the Tribute of Praise, and make other changes which may seem feasible. Previous question called for and sustained. The substitute was adopted. An additional item, 14, was added and adopted. The report was adopted as a whole. (Report 12).

John G. Clarke was elected President of the Board of Publication, and William P. Herbert, Secretary.

J. A. Johnson and W. P. George were introduced to the Conference.

Ira McMichael was given leave of absence from further sessions of Conference.

On motion, to-morrow at 10 o'clock A.M., was fixed as the hour for receiving Fraternal Messengers from the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society.

Item 23 was referred to the Committee of Seven on Revision. Items 24, 25 and 26 were adopted. (Report 5).

Conference took a recess.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Conference resumed at 1 o'clock, with the President in the chair.

By consent, J. W. Morris, F. H. M. Henderson and C. O. Stubbs were excused from attending further sessions of the Conference.

By consent, the order of business was suspended to take up the report of the Committee on Ministerial Education. On motion, the report was considered *seriatim*. Items 1, 2, 3 and 4 were adopted. On motion, the Secretary cast the ballot of the Conference for J. F. Cooper, J. W. Knott, J. H. Claney and B. W. Anthony to constitute the Board of Ministerial Education, and item 5 was declared adopted. Items 6, 7 and 8 were adopted. Moved to adopt item 9. On motion, the item was amended by substituting the name of Joel S. Thrapp for that of Walter Howard. Further amended by substituting the pastor of College Church for A. L. Reynolds. Item adopted as amended. Moved to adopt item 10. Moved to amend by adding, "The President of said Conference shall inform the Secretary of the Board of the intention of the person to withdraw." Motion to amend carried. The item was further amended by adding to Article VI, page 98, the following; "And it shall be the duty of the Corresponding Secretary annually to advise the Presidents of the several Conferences of all persons employed in the several Conferences who are indebted to the Board." Item adopted as amended. The report was adopted as a whole. (Report 7).

The Committee on Boundaries reported.

It being the order of the day, the selection of the place for holding the next General Conference was declared to be in order.

By consent the following resolution was presented, which was adopted:

say to that body we regret exceedingly not having received the greetings which, we learn, they have sent us. Amended by requesting Brother Baker to send greetings from this Conference to the said Methodist Episcopal General Conference. Motion carried as amended.

The report of the Committee on Judiciary was taken up. Items 1 and 2 were adopted. Item 3 was adopted, a part of which goes to the Committee on Boundaries. Items 4 and 5 were adopted. The report was adopted as a whole. (Report 10.)

The following resolution was adopted :

WHEREAS, The General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church, which assembled in 1870, did recognize and adopt the Western Maryland College as a college of the Church; and

WHEREAS, The fact that the Trustees of said College fill vacancies in the Board was accepted and authorized by the General Conference as the most feasible plan for carrying on the work at that place, and was so arranged in its charter; therefore,

Resolved, That this matter of detail in the College management does not affect, in the least, the relation of this College to the Methodist Protestant Church.

Resolved, That this General Conference hereby pronounces its most cordial re-affirmation that Western Maryland College is, and has been from the beginning of its history, one of the official colleges of the Methodist Protestant Church, and is to be so regarded by the whole Church; and the report of its work and condition and prospects is required to be presented to every General Conference, and examined and reported on as one of the general institutions of the Church.

F. T. TAGG,

D. S. STEPHENS.

On motion, the Committee on Education was permitted to take this resolution from the Secretary's desk as a matter of information.

The report of the Committee on Sabbath was taken up and adopted. (Report 11.)

The report of the Committee on Home Missions was taken up and, on motion, considered by items. Items 1 and 2, adopted. Moved to amend item 3 by striking out that part which recommends to leave off the last clause of Article XI. of the proposed Constitution referring to the control of funds.

A resolution, to the effect that no new business be received later than 5 P.M. to-day, was introduced. Previous question called for and sustained. Resolution lost.

The report of the Special Committee on difference between the New York and the Pennsylvania Conferences was adopted. (Report 19.)

The Committee on Course of Study submitted its report.

The report of the Committee on Statistics was taken up. Moved to adopt. Amended by adding a foot note giving information received after the report was made out; also, to insert figures concerning Christian Endeavor Societies in the West Virginia Conference. Report was adopted as amended. (Report 13.)

The report of the Committee on Young People's Societies of Christian Endeavor was taken up and, on motion, considered *seriatim*. Items 1 to 4 were adopted. Item 5 was amended by striking out the last clause, and adopted as amended. Item 6 was adopted. The report was adopted as a whole. (Report 8.)

On motion, item 6 of this report was referred to the Board of Publication, after being adopted.

The Special Committee on the manuscript of John Scott's book made report.

The Conference was addressed by J. L. Jackson, ministerial representative from the Colorado-Texas Conference (colored); and J. W. Laramour, lay representative from the same Conference.

Thomas Aaron, of the Colorado-Texas Conference, was introduced.

Conference took a recess until immediately after the communion service in the evening.

EVENING SESSION.

Conference resumed, with the President in the Chair.

Moved that Daniel Baker be authorized to communicate with Alfred Smith, of the Methodist Episcopal General Conference, now in session in Cleveland, Ohio, and through him

Item 9 of the report of the Committee on Home Missions was being discussed. A motion to recommit the report was lost. On motion, further action on this report was deferred and made the order of the day on resuming after the noon recess.

On motion, the report of the Committee on Education was taken up and considered *seriatim*.

The morning session was continued until 12 o'clock.

Items 1 to 4 of the report of the Committee on Education were adopted. D. C. Thomas, president of Adrian College, read a paper concerning Adrian, which he submitted as his report to the Conference. Item 5, adopted.

On motion, an invitation was accepted from the Metropolitan Street Railway Company to go on a free excursion through the city this afternoon at 4 o'clock.

Continuing with the report on Education, D. S. Stephens read a paper, giving information concerning Kansas City University and the bequest of Dr. Mather to that institution.

On motion, it was ordered to extend the noon recess to 1.30. Conference took a recess.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Conference resumed, with the President in the chair.

Items 6 to 9 of the report on Education were adopted. On motion, item 10 was added and adopted. Report adopted as a whole. (Report 22.)

The following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That each preacher in charge shall take a collection for the American Bible Society in each congregation annually, and report the same to the Quarterly Conference.

That the Quarterly Conference shall inquire what has been done for the American Bible Society during the past quarter, and report the same to Annual Conference. That each Annual Conference shall inquire what amount has been raised during the past year for the American Bible Society.

EUGENIA F. ST. JOHN.

Moved and carried that it is the sense of this Conference that, so far as it is possible, all members should remain until

Amendment carried. Further amended by striking out of this same article of the Constitution the words, "and under the advisory supervision of." Item recommitted. Items 4 to 7, adopted. Report adopted as a whole, except item 3. (Report 18.)

T. H. Lewis and E. M. Allen were excused from attending further sessions of the Conference.

T. H. Bartlett and J. Norman Wills were appointed to take a collection to compensate the sexton for his services.

Conference adjourned.

SEVENTH DAY.

Friday Morning, May 22, 1896.

Conference called to order at 9 o'clock by the President. Devotional exercises were led by Wm. D. Tompkinson. Minutes were read, corrected and approved.

The Committee on Journals and also that on Education submitted reports.

It was ordered that no new matter be given to the standing committees after the noon recess to-day.

The Committee on Boundaries submitted a supplemental report.

The chairman of the Committee on Foreign Missions stated that the report of that committee had been placed on the secretary's desk.

A paper was referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

Item 3 of the report of the Committee on Home Missions was adopted as reported by the committee, after it had been recommitted. Items 8 and 9 were offered in an additional report. Item 8, adopted. (Report 18.)

Mrs. G. B. Dotson and Mrs. T. J. Sheppard addressed the Conference as fraternal messengers from the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society. The President, J. W. Hering, responded in appropriate and well-chosen words.

J. H. Lockwood, H. P. Bond and H. Kaepsel were introduced to the Conference.

On motion, J. T. Howell, C. A. Cecil and J. J. Barge were appointed a special committee to examine a catechism, by J. A. Spence.

Item 2 of the report of the Committee on Boundaries, after a proposed amendment failed to carry, was adopted. Items 3 to 9 were adopted. A motion to refer item 10 to the Arkansas and Missouri Conferences was lost. Item adopted.

Conference took a recess.

EVENING SESSION.

Conference resumed, with President Hering in the chair.

Continuing action on the report of the Committee on Boundaries, items 11 to 19 were adopted. Report was adopted as a whole. (Report 15.)

On motion, the report of the Committee on Finance was taken up. Items 1, 2 and 3, referred to the Committee of Seven on Revision. Item 4, adopted. Report adopted as a whole. (Report 14.)

On motion, F. T. Little was permitted to withdraw a resolution asking that an Overture be sent down to the Annual Conferences concerning a change in the punctuation in paragraph 3, page 18, of Discipline.

The report of the Committee on Revision was again taken up. Item 27, committee concurs, adopted. Item 28 was referred to the Committee of Seven on Revision. Item 29, committee reports non-concurrence, adopted. Items 30 and 31, non-concurrence, adopted. Item 32, committee recommends that it be referred to the Committee of Seven on Revision, adopted. Item 33, (a), to the Committee of Seven on Revision; (b), to the Committee of Seven on Revision; (c), non-concurrence, all adopted. Item 34, non-concurrence, adopted. Item 35, non-concurrence, adopted. Item 36, to the Committee of Seven on Revision. Item 37, committee concurs, adopted. Items 38 and 39, concurrence, adopted. Item 40, (a) referred to the Committee of Seven on Revision; (b), non-concurrence, both adopted. Items 41 to 48, non-concurrence, adopted. Report adopted as a whole. (Report 5.)

final adjournment, that the business may be transacted with a full representation present.

On motion, *The Woman's Missionary Record* was recognized as the official organ of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society.

On motion, it was ordered to take up the report on Foreign Missions when action on the report on Home Missions shall have been finished.

The report on Home Missions was again taken up. Items 9 and 10, laid on the table. Items 11 and 12, adopted. Report adopted as a whole. (Report 18.)

On motion, it was ordered to take up the report on Boundaries, when the report on Foreign Missions has been disposed of.

Report on Foreign Missions taken up. Moved to adopt the report. Moved to amend by ordering that the report of the Board of Foreign Missions be printed in the Journal, along with the report of the committee. On motion, item 11 was substituted for the amendment. Report adopted by a rising vote as a mark of respect to the late Corresponding Secretary of the Board of Foreign Missions, T. E. Coulbourn. (Report 20.)

Report on Boundaries taken up. Item 1, adopted.

On motion, the secretary was authorized to acknowledge the receipt of fraternal greetings from the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, now in session in Cleveland, Ohio, and send the greetings of this Conference to that body.

On motion, an evening session was ordered to begin at 7.30.

The entire West Michigan delegation and J. H. Robinson, R. Rutledge and A. C. Fuller were excused from attending further sessions of the Conference.

J. W. Bush and I. F. Roach were introduced to the Conference.

On motion, it was declared to be the sense of this Conference that it shall make final adjournment not later than 11.30 A.M. to-morrow, the 23.

On motion, it was ordered that the paper read by D. C. Thomas, concerning Adrian College, be published in the Journal, along with the report of the Committee on Education.

On motion, it was ordered to publish in the Journal, along with the report on Foreign Missions, the missionary sermon prepared by the late T. E. Coulbourn just before his death.

The President announced as the Committee of Seven on Revision of the Discipline (the President of the Conference being made chairman by the resolution which authorized the appointing of this committee), J. W. Hering, J. T. Murray, J. T. Howell, J. A. Thrapp, A. W. Robertson, U. S. Fleming, L. Baring.

The following resolution was adopted :

Resolved, That the Committee of Seven on Revision, authorized by this Conference, be empowered to fill vacancies which may be occasioned by death or otherwise, and that any expenses incurred by the committee in the discharge of its duties be paid by the two Book Directories, equally, and reported to the next General Conference.

A supplemental report of the Committee on Judiciary was taken up and adopted. (Item 6, Report 10.)

A committee of three to consider a communication from the Primitive Methodist Eastern Conference was appointed, as follows: J. H. Robinson, J. H. Algor and Frederick Varney.

The report of the Committee on Journals was taken up and adopted. (Report 21.)

The report of the Special Committee on the manuscript of John Scott's book was adopted. (Report 17.)

The report of the Special Committee on the catechism of J. A. Spence was adopted. (Report 23.)

The following resolution was adopted :

WHEREAS, The Overture sent down to the Annual Conferences on Article VIII of the Constitution contains three distinct propositions; therefore,

Resolved, That the Annual Conferences be and hereby are authorized to vote on these propositions *seriatim*

L. W. BATES,
T. B. GRAHAM,
J. R. BOTTS,
M. L. JENNINGS,
G. C. SHEPPARD.

J. F. Cooper and J. J. Mason were given leave of absence from further sessions of Conference.

The report of the Committee on Course of Study was considered item by item. Items 1 to 6, adopted. Item 7, amended by inserting after Kidder's Homiletics, "or Phelps' Theory and Practice of Preaching." Item adopted as amended. Items 8 and 9, adopted. Item 10, amended by not striking out anything in the paragraph referred to and adding, "And shall have passed a satisfactory examination in English Grammar and Binney's Compend." Report adopted as a whole. (Report 16.)

The following were elected Trustees of the General Conference: J. W. Hering, J. D. Kinzer, F. T. Little, T. A. Murray, W. M. Strayer, Joshua W. Miles, J. T. Lassell, John G. Clarke, Maryland; D. S. Stephens, Ohio; Charles J. Yingling, Muskingum; H. W. Reeves, Pittsburgh; W. S. Wilson, Illinois; S. S. Stanton, Indiana; W. A. Bunch, North Carolina; Theodore Cocheu, New York.

The President announced as a committee to publish the Conference journal, T. M. Johnson, F. T. Little and U. S. Fleming.

J. R. Caton and F. R. Harris were excused from further attendance.

The following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That hereafter at no General Conference shall any Corresponding Secretary of any general interest of the Church be elected, until the report of the respective committees on these interests shall have been received, and acted upon by the General Conference.

DANIEL BAKER,
F. R. HARRIS.

Conference adjourned.

EIGHTH DAY.

Saturday Morning, May 23, 1896.

Conference opened, with President Hering in the chair.

Devotional exercises were led by J. R. Botts, of Pennsylvania. Roll call was dispensed with. Minutes were read, corrected and approved.

The following resolution was adopted:

We, the members of this General Conference, in consideration of the intelligence, impartiality and courtesy of J. W. Hering as presiding officer of this body, do hereby express our appreciation, and assure him of our sincere gratitude for his uniform kindness to all the members of the Conference.

J. H. ALGOR,
T. J. OGBURN,
ROBERT M. POLLOCK,
J. F. COWEN,
W. D. STULTZ.

The report of the Committee on Fraternal Relations was adopted, after additional items had been submitted. (Report 24.)

A supplemental report on Boundaries was submitted and adopted. (Report 15.)

The following resolution was adopted:

WHEREAS, A resolution has been passed by this Conference authorizing action on a part of the Overtures sent to the Annual Conferences to be had at the *first* regular session of said conferences, after the adjournment of the General Conference, and said action to be immediately reported to the President of the General Conference; Therefore, be it

Resolved, That the President and secretary of the General Conference be, and hereby are, instructed to send to the various Annual Conferences a complete list of all the Overtures, together with explicit directions as to how to proceed in the matter of said Overtures, urging them to act upon the same at that session and promptly report the result of said action to the President.

J. G. REED,
T. J. STRICKLER.

A resolution concerning the time at which Publishing Agents and the secretaries of the various Boards should enter upon their duties was laid on the table.

Moved and carried that the West Virginia delegation furnish the Committee on Publication of the Journal with the Christian Endeavor statistics of that conference, to be embodied in the statistical report.

The following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the several Annual Conferences be requested to take up a collection to defray the necessary incidental expenses of the General Conference and remit the same to the secretary of the General Conference prior to the next

The following resolution was adopted :

Resolved, That the barbarous treatment of the Christians of Armenia has stirred our hearts with profound sympathy for those suffering and oppressed people, and with sternest condemnation of those guilty of the outrages upon humanity and civilization; and we approve of the efforts made by our national authorities to prevent these persecutions, and will, so far as we can, co-operate with the charitable efforts to send relief to the destitute Christians of Armenia.

J. T. MURRAY,

F. T. TAGG.

The following resolution was adopted :

Resolved, That we hereby authorize and request the Board of Publication to publish our Ritual and the selected Psalms as found in our Discipline in a book for common use in our churches, or publish them in the revised edition of the Hymn Book.

J. D. KINZER,

F. T. LITTLE.

A resolution asking that an Overture be sent down to the Annual Conferences to clothe their representative to the next General Conference with conventional powers was laid over until the Next General Conference.

Fraternal greetings from the General Council of the Reformed Episcopal Church were read and, on motion, J. D. Kinzer was appointed to convey like greetings from this Conference to the said General Council.

The following paper was adopted: .

Resolved, That item 1, page 79, of Discipline be amended by striking out the last sentence of the item and inserting the following: "The organization of Annual Conferences during the interim of the General Conference shall be under the supervision of a commission, composed of three presidents of contiguous Annual Conferences, appointed by the president of the General Conference. Said commission shall see that the requirements of the Constitution and Discipline are complied with, and report, in writing, to the secretary of the General Conference the facts of such organization, and the secretary shall certify the same to the General Conference at its next succeeding session."

HUGH STACKHOUSE,

F. T. LITTLE,

E. J. WILSON,

S. A. FISHER,

C. W. WATERMAN,

GEORGE SHAFFER.

If, upon the contrary, it contains that upon which God may bestow His gracious favor, and I believe there is much, then with His favor may He also let His blessing come, that our work may be fruitful, giving courage and inspiration to the Church throughout all its borders. Before I take leave of you, my brethren, I desire to express my high appreciation of the kindly, Christian spirit which has characterized our deliberations, and to say that for each member of this General Conference I entertain the sincerest regard. You have my prayers and best wishes.

And now, as we go back to our homes and to our work, let us go clothed with the power of a higher and broader Christian life, and let us also be filled with a new and deeper consecration to the service of our Blessed Master.

I now declare the Conference adjourned, to meet on the third Friday of May, in the year of our Lord Nineteen Hundred, at 10 o'clock A.M., at such place as the committee appointed for that purpose may designate.

Conference adjourned to meet on the third Friday in May, 1900, at 10 o'clock A.M., at such place as the committee which has the matter in charge may select.

J. W. HERING, *President.*

T. M. JOHNSON, *Secretary.*

quadrennial session, and that each conference be requested to send up \$5.00 or more.

THOS. A. MURRAY,
A. W. ROBERTSON.

The following paper was adopted:

The physical evils resulting from the use of tobacco are now so well known that most States provide by law for teaching the effects of narcotics on the human body;

Resolved, First, that we favor such laws and recommend supplementary instruction in Sunday-schools, children's classes and junior societies of Christian Endeavor;

Resolved, Second, that we recognize the worth and service of those who grew up under conditions of public sentiment and knowledge differing from the present, but that we believe that no young persons can bring with them into the ranks of either ministry or laity the tobacco habit without having their usefulness much impaired thereby.

T. J. STRICKLER.

A resolution providing that all reports and resolutions, in the future, shall be put on paper of uniform size was laid on the table.

The following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee of Seven on Revision be instructed to compile such parts of the reports of the Committee on Judiciary as have been affirmed by the several General Conventions and Conferences, in view of having such decisions placed in our Book of Discipline.

A. W. ROBERTSON,
F. T. TAGG.

Greetings were received from the National Council of the Congregational Churches, and on motion, F. T. Tagg was appointed to send fraternal greetings from this Conference to that body.

The minutes were read, corrected and approved.

Before final adjournment, President Hering said:

PRESIDENT HERING'S CLOSING REMARKS.

We have now come to the hour of final adjournment, and are soon to be separated. Another chapter has been added to the legislative history of our Church, and the book is about to be closed. If there be anything in it upon which the blessing of our Heavenly Father cannot rest, I trust the Divine finger will blot it from the record, so that no harm may come to the Church.

3. We recommend the adoption of the Memorial sent up by the Methodist Protestant Sunday-school of McConnelsville, Ohio, and the same is made a part of this report as follows:

McCONNELLSVILLE, O., April 25, 1896.

To the General Conference of the M. P. Church, Kansas City, Kansas:

WHEREAS, We are interested in, and desirous of, disseminating among the people of our beloved land and elsewhere, to the greatest possible advantage, the religion of Christ; and,

WHEREAS, We recognize the fact that at the time of the "King James," or authorized version of the Holy Scriptures, to wit, A. D. 1611, many imperfections existed in the English language, and they consequently exist in said version; and,

WHEREAS, The definition and meaning of many words have since been materially changed and established by modern custom and usage; and,

WHEREAS, We believe that what is known as the "Revised Version" of the Scriptures is more modern in meaning and in many respects better and more easily comprehended and understood; and,

WHEREAS, We firmly believe, judging from our experience and observation, and from the action and course taken and adopted by many of our sister Churches and Christian denominations, that it would be to the best interest of the people, the Sunday-school and the Church to adopt and engraft into our Sunday-school Lesson Leaves, Quarterlies and Journals the Revised Version of the Scriptures aforesaid; therefore, be it

Resolved, That we hereby petition your Honorable Body, asking that as soon as the change can be conveniently made, a "parallel" edition of the Scriptures, containing both the "Authorized" and the "Revised" version thereof, of each lesson text be published in said Leaves, Quarterlies and Journals, together with full explanatory and historical notes hereon in manner and form similar to what has heretofore been published; and we pray that you authorize the publication of the same in accordance with this petition.

JOHN A. REICHARD,
W. M. POISAL,
G. E. McMANIMAN,
JAMES R. HAY,
F. H. VARNEY.

(3.) Report of the Committee on Temperance.

Your Committee on Temperance reports as follows: We regard it as a simple Christian duty on the part of our Church membership to abstain from the use of all intoxicating beverages, and to contribute their co-operation and support to every method for the suppression of the liquor traffic by the State.

We believe that the enforcement of the principles of the Gospel in the pulpit, and the consistent support of these principles by the laity are the truest, the surest, and the most lasting in the work of temperance reform.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES, ETC.

THE FOLLOWING REPORTS WERE ADOPTED AS PRINTED, WHERE NOT OTHERWISE STATED.

(1.) Report of Committee on Articles of Faith.

WESTMINSTER, MD., March 27, 1896.

To the General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church for May, 1896:

MR. PRESIDENT AND BRETHREN: It will be remembered that the last General Conference recommitted the report on the Articles of Faith to the Standing Committee, with instructions to report to this General Conference. (See published Journal, page 57.)

I have to report that no action upon the original report has been taken by said committee. I requested, through the Church papers, the members of the committee to suggest any change in our report that they thought desirable, but I received no response except from J. J. Smith, and he did not suggest any change. Therefore, I can do nothing but present the original report, which is in the hands of the Secretary of the General Conference.

Any change in our Articles of Religion seems to me to be of such importance as to require almost a unanimous vote, and as there appears to be so little desire on the part of the Church for any change, I would suggest an indefinite postponement of the whole question.

L. W. BATES,
Chairman of Committee.

(2.) Report of Committee on Sunday Schools.

Your committee submits the following:

1. We recommend that the Board of Publication issue an Intermediate Scholar's Quarterly, urging it as an absolute necessity in our Sunday-school work.

2. We recommend that the Shorter Catechism be published in our Sunday-school quarterlies and lesson papers in weekly instalments, and that superintendents be required to review to their schools from week to week that part of the catechism so published.

5. By J. T. Murray: "No member shall be expelled or deprived of church privileges without an impartial trial by a committee of not less than three lay members. On a circuit, the trial shall be by the society of which the accused is a member, and he shall have the right of appeal to the ensuing Quarterly Conference; but no man who shall have sat on the first trial shall sit on the appeal, and all appeals shall be final.

This rule shall be subject to exceptions, as follows: Persons whose names are on the church register, and who cannot be found, or who have ceased to take an interest in the church, may be dealt with in the manner following: Notice shall be given to the persons delinquent, due effort be made to serve them with notice, and in cases where such persons cannot be found, such notice shall be mailed to the residence of the delinquent as it appears upon the Registry; that, unless within thirty days they shall show cause why such action shall not be taken, their names will be erased from the church register. In circuits, this procedure shall be by the society of which the delinquent is a member, and in stations by the Quarterly Conference. This action shall finally dispose of his right to membership."

This being a constitutional provision, we recommend that the proposition be handed down to the Annual Conferences as an overture. This item being under consideration by Conference, was, at the suggestion of the author, referred to the Committee of Seven on Revision.

6. By J. S. Perry: There shall be held annually, within the limits of each district, a conference, to be denominated the Annual Conference, which shall consist of an equal number of ministers, or preachers, and laymen; that is, all ministers or preachers properly under the stationing authority of the Conference and actually serving as pastors, missionaries or evangelists, and the supernumerary and superannuated ministers and one lay delegate for each of said ministers and preachers. Each station, circuit or mission shall be entitled to one lay delegate for each minister or preacher residing in its bounds who holds membership in the Annual Conference, except for pastors who reside in a charge other than the one they serve; provided, however--(See Discipline.) This being a constitutional question, we can recommend no action. Referred to Committee of Seven on Revision.

7. By L. W. Bates:

WHEREAS, The Rule regulating the election of the Standing District Committee, in Section 29, page 77 of the Discipline, is partial, in that it allows all three of the ministerial members to be unstationed ministers, but forbids more than two of them to be itinerant ministers; therefore,

Resolved, That the words "one of whom shall be an unstationed minister," be stricken out. We concur. Adopted.

8. Proposition of J. L. Mills: Substitute for Section 2, page 52:

(a) The children of the members of our church shall be enrolled as probationers, and shall be under pastoral care and instruction with a view to their admission to full membership; and they shall be received into full membership

We are opposed to any and every system of license for the reason that it is a legal sanction of an iniquitous traffic, and gives it the same recognition before the law as that of a just and honorable business, and we cannot give even implied or indirect sanction to the business. We want to record our constant and uncompromising hostility to the saloon, and our hearty support of any measure that will compass its overthrow.

We hail with joy the growth of the temperance sentiment in this country. Many counties in the various States have adopted local prohibition, and others are falling into line, and several States have suppressed the traffic by law within their territory. And, though the Church is far from being a unit in its hostility to the saloon, it is apparent that a steady growth of this sentiment is prophetic of the time when this blackest sin of the nation will be wiped out.

We recommend that the request of the London Sabbath-School Union, asking the world-wide observance of the fourth Sunday in November as Temperance Day in the Sunday-schools of our Church, be endorsed.

M. C. JACKSON,

J. S. FRANCIS,

F. T. TAGG,

THEODORE PURVIS.

J. R. BOTTS,

(4.) Report of Committee on Certificates.

Your Committee on Certificates would respectfully report: That the roll of members, as presented by the Secretary, J. F. C wan, is a correct list of Representatives constitutionally elected and returned, and, therefore, all who are thus enrolled are entitled to seats in this General Conference.

T. J. OGBURN,

C. B. McDANIEL,

J. H. ALGOR,

A. A. RUST,

S. S. STANTON,

J. F. COOPER.

(5.) Report of Committee on Revision.

Your committee has weighed carefully the propositions referred to it by the Conference and has reached the conclusions following :

1. (*Withdrawn*).
2. Proposition by J. G. Reed to strike out item referring to "rebaptism," we do not concur. Report adopted.
3. Proposition by J. H. Robinson to strike the word "Catholic" from 10th line of Apostles' Creed, we concur. Adopted.
4. Proposition of J. A. Thrapp, and others, to make refusal of member for one year to contribute to pastor's salary, forfeiture of membership, we do not concur. Report adopted.

14. Sent to Committee on Ritual.

15. By J. S. Perry: (a) To make change in blank for pastors' report. We find no cause for action. Report adopted.

On items *b, c, d, e*, non-concurrence. Report adopted.

(b) That page 71, 3d line, 11th section, be changed, providing for ordination of candidates, upon examination, away from Annual Conference.

(c) To strike out Art. 7, page 40.

(d) To strike out the figures "70," regarding candidates' examination.

(e) To strike out Sec. 3, page 103.

(f and g) To change ritual and baptism. Sent to Committee on Ritual.

16. By J. T. Murray: (a) Page 111, Section 9, strike out "Suitable testimonial" and insert "certificate." We concur. Referred to Committee of Seven on Revision.

(b) Change place of paragraph 2, page 52, to page 110, adding to Section 6, after word "Christian religion;" third line from bottom. We concur. Referred to Committee of Seven on Revision.

17. By J. T. Murray: Page 51, Amend Section 1 so as to read: "Applications for admission to probationary membership in any Station, Circuit or Mission, must be made to the pastors. In the absence of the pastors, the application must be made to the associate, or the supernumerary associate, or leader officiating, and reported to the pastors, to be by him entered in the list of probationers. In the event of an objection to the applicant being made by any person present at the service being held when such application is made, the matter shall be referred to a called or regularly occurring meeting of the church. Beyond the bounds of stations and circuits application may be made to any minister, preacher or leader of our church. On an application for full membership a vote of the church shall be taken." We concur. Referred to Committee of Seven on Revision.

18. By W. D. Tompkinson: To change (a) page 21, a part of the Constitution. We have no authority to act. Adopted.

(b) To change page 61, paragraph 1. We non concur. Report adopted.

19. By James Kirkwood: To change Section 1, page 32. No authority to act. Report adopted.

20. By J. P. Hay: Add to paragraph 2, page 115, "and the record shall be audited annually by a special committee appointed for that purpose by the Church." We concur. Report adopted.

21. (*Withdrawn*).

22. By M. C. Jackson: Page 110, after Section 7, insert, "To submit a written report quarterly to his quarterly conference, setting forth the spiritual condition of his charge, together with all changes that have been made during the quarter." We concur. Report adopted.

on application, if the church is satisfied with their spiritual experience. We concur. Adopted.

(b) All other persons desiring to unite with the Church, except those bringing a certificate, or who have been known as leading a Christian life, shall be received on probation. The period of probation as to time is left with each church to decide in each individual case. Probationers are to be nominated by the Quarterly Conference, before being presented to the church for election to full membership. No one shall be enrolled as a full member of the church who has not been elected, and received according to the Ritual for the reception of the same. Referred to the Committee of Seven on Revision.

(c) Dropped members are in a state of suspension, and are not to be reported as members to the Annual Conference, nor counted as voters in any church action; but whenever they shall ask for re-instatement, the church shall either restore them or try them under charges.

In connection with this proposition we recommend the following:

Resolved, That while it is not within the province of the Conference to make any change in the constitutional provision of Section 3, Article XIV, we give as the opinion of the Conference that churches may be justified in so construing the law as to take action according to the following: "Dropped members are in a state of suspension, and are not to be reported as members to the Annual Conference, nor counted as voters in any church action, but whenever they shall ask for re instatement the church shall either restore them or try them under charges. Referred to Committee of Seven on Revision.

(d) To add on page 129 after the words Church Discipline the words "which shall be furnished by the local church." Page 117. To duties of Stewards add to: "And provide the Discipline to be given to each full member at the time of reception into the Church." Committee concurs. Adopted.

10. By H. T. Winters: *Resolved*, That it is the sense of the South Illinois Conference that it would be better to have candidates for local license to come before the Sub-district Conference for examination instead of the Quarterly Conference, and we ask the General Conference to so amend the Discipline as to bring about this change.

We do not concur. Referred to Committee of Seven on Revision.

11. By R. Rutledge and J. J. Barge: To change varbiage, page 125, regarding baptism. We do not concur. Report adopted.

12. By R. Rutledge: That the following changes be made, viz: That the same provision with regard to the election of certain church officers be made, as appears in Article 25, page 75, concerning the election of delegates to the Annual Conference. Said provision requiring the election of said officers by ballot. The elections in which this provision is-requested are those of class-leaders, station or circuit stewards, and Sabbath-school superintendents.

No action; the proposition not definitely setting forth the change desired. Referred to the Committee of Seven on Revision.

13. (*Withdrawn*).

(b) For the expression, "the holy church" ("Catholic" having been stricken out) in the Apostles' Creed, substitute "the church of God."

(c) In the 10th line from top of page 134 the word "invitation" shall be stricken out and the word "exhortation" substituted in place thereof.

We recommend the reference of these items to the Committee of Seven on Revision. Adopted.

33. By J. T. Howell: (a) *Resolved*, That the word "yourselves," found in the 19th line from top of page 128, be changed into "yourself," to agree with the number of the personal pronoun found at the beginning of that paragraph.

(b) *Resolved*, That the first sentence on page 120 be changed so as to read thus: "Opportunities for infant baptism should be given monthly in all our churches, and oftener, if necessary. We recommend the reference of these items to the Committee of Seven on Revision. Report adopted.

Paragraph (c) was non-concurred in and the report adopted.

34. By T. H. Colhouer: Requiring pastors to be members of the Conferences to which the churches they serve belong. Non-concur. Report adopted.

35. By James K. Pierce: Concerning reception of members. Non-concur. Report adopted.

36. By T. J. Ogburn, as follows: So change the wording or language of the first four lines of Section 4, page 115, as to remove all ambiguity and possibility of being misunderstood. We recommend its reference to the Committee of Seven on Revision. Report adopted.

37. By Ira Champion, as follows: Substitute for Section 4, page 63: "The last Quarterly Conference shall fix the pastor's salary for the ensuing year, and apportion the same to the several churches, and elect not less than three Stewards. All the qualified members of the church present shall have the right to vote in the election of Stewards. We concur. Report adopted.

38. By Ira Champion, as follows: Change sub-division 1, page 116, under "Duties of Stewards," by striking out "And fix the pastor's salary," and inserting "the" before "current." We concur. Report adopted.

39. By R. Rutledge: To amend Article 10, page 65, so as to read: "No appointment shall be dropped from a circuit except at the last Quarterly Conference; *Provided*, That said action shall not take effect until ratified by the Annual Conference. We concur. Report adopted.

40. By J. T. Howell: "In the Ritual used in the reception of probationers: (a) Strike out question three and its answer, on page 126." We recommend its reference to the Committee of Seven on Revision: Adopted. (b) proposing further change in same part of Ritual. Non-concurrence. Report adopted.

41. By J. T. Howell: Striking out "whosoever" and inserting "this child," in prayer for the baptism of infants. Non-concur. Report adopted.

42. By S. Heininger; With reference to obligation of Board of Missions to appointee in case of his disability. Report unfavorably. Report adopted.

23. By S. S. Stanton: In paragraph 8, page 64, substitute the word "officers" for "superintendents," making the clause to read: "And the respective officers thereof shall be elected by the Sabbath-school officers and teachers, after notice from the pulpit." We do not concur. Referred to Committee of Seven on Revision.

24. Proposition 'o change time of fixing pas or's salary, the change desired was not specified, and we do not recommend any change. Report adopted.

25. By J. K. Pierce: To change mode of receiving into the Church. We do not concur. Report adopted.

26. Proposition of J. R. Vannorsdall concerning the settlement of disputes about debt. We do not concur. Adopted.

27. By T. H. Lewis: Add to the regulations governing Annual Conferences in the Book of Discipline the following: "No Annual Conference shall receive any one who has been a student under the charge of one of the committees of examination of the Board of Ministerial Education without a testimonial of honorable dismissal from the committee." We concur. Adopted.

28. By S. S. Stanton: I. Let the form for the Reception of Probationers be so changed that the requirements of the candidates shall be no greater than that of Article II, paragraph 1, of the Constitution, page 16. Therefore, strike out the paragraphs in Ritual, pages 126 and 127, as follows: "The Holy Scriptures declare: 'If thou shalt,'" &c. "Answer, I do." "The Holy Scriptures further declare: 'If we confess,'" &c. "Answer, I do." Substitute the words "Expressed your desire for salvation in Christ" for the words "Made your confession of faith," making the paragraph read: "You having expressed your desire for salvation, and entered into solemn covenant," &c.

II. To secure uniformity in manner of reception of members, that the Ritual be changed by inserting, as instruction to the minister, at close of the pledge to a Christian life (on page 128 of Discipline following the words, "Righteously and godly in this present world,") the sentence: "Here let the vote be taken." We recommend the reference of this to the Committee of Seven on Revision.

29. Proposition of T. J. Strickler to change the form of reception of probationers. We do not concur. Report adopted.

30. By J. S. Perry: Strike out sentence from prayer, page 121. We do not concur. Report adopted.

31. By J. S. Perry: Strike out sentence in prayer, page 124. We do not concur. Report adopted.

32. By J. T. Howell: *Resolved*, That the following changes be made in the Ritual used in the administration of the Lord's Supper: (a) In every case where direction is given to the party or parties officiating it shall be "the minister or ministers," instead of "the minister" and sometimes "the ministers," and then, again, "the minister or ministers," as it now appears. See pages 132, 134 and 135.

(7). Report of the Committee on Ministerial Education.

The Committee on Ministerial Education reports as follows :

1. We recommend that Article VIII of the Constitution of the Board of Ministerial Education be changed to read as follows :

“No beneficiary shall receive any assistance from this Board except upon the recommendation of four-fifths of the Examining Committee, and that said beneficiary shall not receive more than \$125 per year or more than a total sum of \$500, except upon special recommendation of the entire Examining Committee.”

2. We herewith approve the two following requests made from North Carolina, which are as follows :

WHEREAS, There was some years ago an agreement between the Board of Ministerial Education and the North Carolina Annual Conference stipulating that all contributions in that Conference to the Ministerial Educational Fund, save such as should be necessary to aid such theological students at Yadkin College as could not reasonably enter Western Maryland or Adrian College, should thereafter be paid over to the General Conference Board of Ministerial Education, said Board agreeing to aid all the young men recommended by the said North Carolina Conference, as long as any funds should remain available; and,

WHEREAS, All the largest individual contributors in North Carolina, unaware of such agreement, have aided J. S. Williams, T. M. Johnson and W. R. Lowdermilk to the amount of \$800, expecting the money to be returned to them, the original contributors, to be used in aiding other young men of that Conference; therefore,

Resolved, That we respectfully petition this General Conference to authorize and request the Board of Ministerial Education to return to the above-mentioned beneficiaries the bonds, and the \$90 paid thereon, they have given to be returned by them to the original contributors.

3. And we further recommend that the General Conference do hereafter require the North Carolina Conference to report and deliver all its general collections and bonds now due for this cause to the General Conference Board of Ministerial Education.

4. We herewith submit the clear and full statement of the Treasurer of the Board, which will explain itself.

We congratulate the Secretary upon his efficient work, and heartily recommend his re-election. We also recommend that he be made Treasurer of the Board as well as Secretary, and be required to give proper bond at the expense of the society.

5. We recommend the following as members of the Board of Ministerial Education: J. F. Cooper, J. W. Knott, J. H. Claney, B. W. Anthony and the Secretary of the Board.

6. We recommend that the following be added to Article VII, page 99, of the Discipline :

43. By S. Heiningar: Adding section to Order of Business in Quarterly Conference. Non-concur. Report approved.

44. By M. L. Smith: Changing place of item in Duties of Stewards. Non-concur. Report adopted.

45. By O. F. Warner: Concerning duties of pastors. Non-concurrence. Adopted.

46. By R. Rutledge: Election of certain officers. Report unfavorably. Adopted.

47. By James Kirkwood: Striking out 16th item, Order of Business of Quarterly Conference. Report unfavorably. Adopted.

48. By W. L. Bailey: Referring to election of Sabbath-school superintendents. Report unfavorably. Report adopted.

J. T. MURRAY,
J. F. McCULLOCH,
C. B. McDANIEL,
S. S. STANTON,
J. J. MASON,
JAMES KIRKWOOD.

*J. G. Coleman,
C. J. Yingling,
G. B. Brown,
Ira Champion,
W. R. Sims,
J. E. Rouze.*

(6). Committee on President's Address and Report.

1. We desire to express our gratification at the admirable address of the President, and hope that his successors in office will continue this practice, as it tends to emphasize the office as connectional.

2. We find several recommendations, all of which your committee approves, to wit: We recommend that the official members of the church should seek the advice and council of the President of the General Conference in matters of difficulty, and especially as to the construction of church law. We recommend that the secretaries of the Annual Conferences be required to send a copy of the minutes each year to the President of the General Conference.

3. We have heard with regret the intimation that some of our churches are lax in their observance of church law, and would call special attention to this fact, and recommend rigid adherence to the law and usage of our church, and strict compliance thereto—obey the law strictly in every case, and if the law is not good, seek to have it changed, but never ignored.

4. We recommend the publication of the address, not only in the minutes of the General Conference, but also in the official organs of the Church.

J. L. MILLS,
D. S. STEPHENS,
C. B. McDANIEL.

METHODIST PROTESTANT CHURCH.

65

Statement of the Treasurer of the Board of Ministerial Education of the Methodist Protestant Church, for Four Years Ending May 15, 1896.

	To July 1, 1893.	To July 1, 1894.	To July 1, 1895.	To May 15, 1896.	Aggregate.
Balance May 15, 1892.....					\$333 81
RECEIPTS.					
New York Conference	\$123 59	\$161 07	\$61 68	\$190 45	\$536 79
Onondaga Conference.....	34 37	41 32	25 01	22 72	123 42
Genessee Conference.....	1 75	11 31	7 00	13 10	33 16
New Jersey Conference.....	77 03	115 54	83 20	10 80	286 57
Pennsylvania Conference.....	36 95	31 15	31 42	24 28	123 80
Maryland Conference.....	882 54	608 50	658 48	641 96	2,791 48
Pittsburgh Conference.....	581 32	572 35	698 13	553 98	2,405 78
Virginia Conference.....	4 80	1 50			6 30
West Virginia Conference.....	19 19	56 30	33 93	44 55	153 97
Ohio Conference.....	257 91	298 80	266 61	279 43	1,102 75
Muskingum Conference.....	524 12	491 70	405 77	387 09	1,808 68
Indiana Conference.....	79 68	65 10	74 81	95 86	316 45
North Illinois Conference.....	70 57	75 94	84 56	81 35	312 42
South Illinois Conference.....	12 22	25 02	5 91		43 15
Michigan Conference.....	82 64	95 30	91 51	66 83	336 28
West Michigan Conference.....	34 28	25 11	45 10	20 54	125 03
Iowa Conference.....	77 95	42 48	95 80	38 50	254 73
Nebraska Conference.....	16 50	35 25	9 05	4 50	65 30
Kansas Conference	36 90	11 35	10 73	4 78	63 76
Missouri Conference.....	13 00		10 00		23 00
North Missouri Conference.....	15 00				15 00
Tennessee Conference.....	8 00		6 10		14 10
Alabama Conference.....	39 17	24 70	27 15	37 10	128 12
Georgia Conference.....	36 05	15 58	13 40	41 60	106 63
North Carolina Conference.....	97 87	6 00	2 00	150 00	255 87
Texas Conference.....			5 50	90 00	95 50
Individuals.....	153 50	205 00	51 25	5 00	414 75
Receipts from churches.....	3,316 90	3,017 37	2,804 10	2,804 42	11,942 79
Beneficiaries.....	1,029 00	1,189 10	1,200 25	1,166 23	4,584 58
Interest.....	535 85	281 50	324 00	367 00	1,508 35
Permanent fund.....	1,000 00			100 00	1,100 00
	\$5,881 75	\$4,487 97	\$4,328 35	\$4,437 65	\$19,135 72
DISBURSEMENTS.					
Beneficiaries at Adrian.....	\$1,418 75	\$1,572 50	\$1,385 00	\$1,035 42	\$5,411 67
“ “ Westminster.....	1,716 25	1,307 00	1,120 00	1,059 00	5,202 25
“ “ North Carolina	95 00			100 00	195 00
“ “ Texas				90 00	90 00
Salaries.....	1,267 70	1,050 00	966 63	933 47	4,217 80
Traveling expenses.....	326 35	216 54	240 46	197 43	980 78
Printing and stationery.....	8 45	23 58	51 98	4 66	88 67
Postage	22 42	11 68	5 84	28 29	68 23
Permanent fund.....		1,359 80			1,359 80
	\$4,854 92	\$5,541 10	\$3,769 91	\$3,448 27	\$17,614 20
Balance					1,855 33
					\$19,469 53

May 15, 1896.

JOHN H. CLANEY, *Treasurer.*

"They shall communicate with the various Annual Conferences as to progress of students from their respective districts, and give to every student at the close of his period of study at college or seminary a testimonial of honorable dismissal to his Conference."

7. We cannot emphasize too strongly the importance of all our Conferences keeping before them the interest of this very great department of church work, and of the duty of attracting by every proper means the attention of our young people to the ranks of our ministry, and of providing the necessary funds for their support. We should have at least double the number of students we now have in our theological institutions, and our collections should be increased proportionately.

8. We recommend the following Examining Committees: At Westminster—President Western Maryland College, President Westminster Theological Seminary, Pastor Methodist Protestant Church, Westminster; J. W. Hering, Charles Billingslea.

9. At Adrian—The President of Adrian College, Dean of School of Theology, Pastor of College Church, Joel S. Thrapp, W. N. Swift.

10. We recommend that when any beneficiary of the Board shall leave the Methodist Protestant Church before having repaid the loan made him by the Board, his papers shall be withheld by the President of the Annual Conference of which he is a member, until such debt shall have been repaid in full, and that the President of said Conference shall inform the Secretary of the Board of the intention of the person to withdraw. We further recommend the addition of the following to Article VI, page 98: And it shall be the duty of the Corresponding Secretary annually to advise the Presidents of the several Conferences of all persons employed in the several Conferences who are indebted to the Board.

F. H. M. HENDERSON,
A. D. MELVIN,
EUGENIA F. ST. JOHN,
GEORGE SHAFFER,
WM. D. TOMKINSON,

DANIEL BAKER,
T. B. EVANS,
E. M. ALLEN,
JOHN SIMM,
M. YINGLING.

BENEFICIARIES AIDED IN FOUR YEARS, ENDING MAY 15, 1896.

At Westminster :

E. C. Makosky	\$ 93 75
D. Blake	25 00
N. O. Gibson.....	405 00
J. H. Jenkins.....	135 00
F. H. Lewis.....	25 00
W. O. Livingston.....	365 00
O. D. McKeever.....	139 50
C. P. Nowlin.....	100 00
W. R. Revelle.....	350 00
G. H. Stocksdale.....	243 00
J. L. Ward.....	225 00
G. W. Hines	116 25
U. G. Murphy.....	31 25
H. E. Nelson.....	156 25
L. Randall.....	31 25
R. E. Marshall.....	125 00
J. H. Jenkins.....	10 00
J. F. Bryan.....	273 00
W. E. Pettit.....	330 00
W. E. Tyre.....	100 00
E. F. Warwick.....	30 00
C. E. Berkshire.....	255 00
H. B. Blackwood.....	100 00
J. F. Good.....	75 00
H. O. Keene.....	193 00
G. H. Revelle.....	245 00
G. H. Stackhouse.....	15 00
A. D. Bichell.....	55 00
T. D. Wilkie.....	95 00
W. A. Melvin.....	105 00
J. L. Ward.....	155 00
R. F. Day.....	55 00
C. L. Dougherty.....	45 00
T. H. D. Patton.....	100 00
C. C. Baker.....	45 00
R. A. Burch.....	45 00
Joseph Machin.....	45 00
J. H. Straughn.....	45 00
W. K. Stalnaker	100 00
T. E. Donovan.....	20 00
C. C. Douglas.....	50 00
J. F. Lane.....	50 00

\$5,202 25

May 15, 1896.

North Carolina :

W. R. Lowdermilk.....	\$195 00
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Texas :

George A. Beebe.....	\$90 00
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At Adrian :

L. E. Ader	\$ 93 75
J. W. Arbogast.....	71 24
H. B. Bortel.....	31 25
J. B. Carder.....	231 25
G. D. Clark.....	156 25
E. Evans.....	168 34
J. A. Gilbert.....	31 25
A. O. Horney.....	31 25
J. K. Marthens.....	405 85
A. H. McClain.....	114 58
F. T. Nichols.....	31 25
F. W. Perkins	98 35
W. E. Thompson.....	171 58
F. C. Viele.....	31 25
G. W. Wright.....	31 25
A. L. Zink.....	31 25
O. G. Blackwell.....	374 58
E. M. Hougland.....	6 25
J. F. Dimit.....	180 93
W. J. Eastlake.....	37 50
W. S. West.....	374 57
R. E. Games.....	328 27
M. Hammond.....	304 05
J. Headley.....	255 73
J. S. Leland.....	328 24
W. C. Helmbold.....	328 27
C. S. McGrath	72 50
A. A. Patterson	166 66
A. C. Selby.....	125 00
H. O. Lucas	152 30
C. E. Perry.....	78 65
J. N. Lackey.....	27 24
W. M. Randles.....	165 40
J. E. Richards... ..	133 26
C. L. Dark.....	11 84
A. Steele	203 25
J. V. Sutherland.....	27 24

\$5,411 67JOHN H. CLANEY, *Treasurer.*

PERMANENT FUND OF BOARD OF MINISTERIAL EDUCATION OF METHODIST
PROTESTANT CHURCH.

DONORS.

James Hicks, Cincinnati, Ohio.....	\$2,000 00	
Daniel Horne, Cincinnati, Ohio.....	500 00	
Mrs. Julia G. English, Pittsburg, Pa.....	700 00	
Dr. John Sargent, New Brighton, Pa.....	200 00	
John Whetstone, Cincinnati, Ohio.....	1,000 00	
Mrs. Eliza Sands, Bellevue, Pa.....	400 00	
Mrs. Tamsey A. Reese, Easton, Md.....	100 00	
Mrs. R. Barbara Wilson, Emmorton, Md.....	5 00	
J. C. Hazlett, Keokuk, Iowa.....	125 00	
	<hr/>	\$5,030 00

MORTUARY NOTES.

Christopher Link, Paris, Ill.....	\$1,000 00	
Tighlman and Clara Bailey, Colfax, Ind.....	500 00	
	<hr/>	\$1,500 00

ANNUITY NOTE.

Dr. H. G. G. Fink, Springdale, Pa.....	\$500 00
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INVESTMENTS.

Adrian College, Sargent Fund.....	\$ 200 00	
Mortgage, T. H. Gibson, Sharpsburg.....	1,000 00	
13 Shares Pittsburgh National Bank of Commerce.....	1,490 00	
18 Shares Monongahela Navigation Co.....	1,294 60	
Loan on 25 Shares Monongahela Insurance Co.....	1,000 00	
Loan to D. S. Stephens, D.D.....	200 00	
	<hr/>	\$5,184 60

Walker Memorial Fund paid \$2,456.50. Not invested.

May 15, 1896.

JOHN H. CLANEY, *Treasurer.*

(9.) General Conference Incorporation.

ACT TO INCORPORATE THE "TRUSTEES OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE METHODIST PROTESTANT CHURCH."

WHEREAS, It has been represented that the ministers and lay delegates comprising the General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church may from time to time receive by gifts, devises and bequests, grants and otherwise, money, lands or other property, and become possessed of the same for religious and benevolent purposes, and they are desirous that a corporate body be created for the more successful holding, management and disposition of any property thus or in any way acquired; therefore,

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That Joshua W. Hering, John D. Kinzer, Francis T. Little, Webster M. Strayer, James T. Lassell, Joshua W. Miles, Thomas A. Murray and John G. Clarke, of the State of Maryland; David S. Stephens, of the State of Ohio; Harry W. Reeves, of the State of Pennsylvania; William L. Wilson, of the State of Illinois; Seymour S. Stanton, of the State of Indiana; Walter A. Bunch, of the State of North Carolina, and Theodore Cocheu, of the State of New York, and their successors, duly elected and appointed in the manner hereinafter directed, be and they are hereby made, declared and constituted a body politic and corporate, to have perpetual succession by the name, style and title of the "Trustees of the General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church," and by that name, style and title are hereby made and declared able and capable in law to take, receive, hold, possess and acquire by gift, devise, bequest, grant or otherwise, lands, tenements, goods, chattels, estate and property of any kind whatsoever, and the same again to grant, devise, alien and dispose of; provided, that the clear yearly income of the real and personal estate of said corporation shall not exceed the sum of fifty thousand dollars.

SEC. 2. *And be it enacted*, That no misnomer of the said body corporate and its successors shall defeat or annul any purchase, gift, grant, devise or bequest to or from the said corporation; provided, the intent of the party or parties shall sufficiently appear upon the face of the gift, will, grant or other writing whereby an estate, interest or property was intended to pass to or from said corporation.

SEC. 3. *And be it enacted*, That the said corporation and its successors shall have full power and authority to make, have and use a common seal, with such device and inscription as it shall see fit, and the same to break, alter and renew at pleasure.

SEC. 4. *And be it enacted*, That the said corporation and its successors by the name, style and title aforesaid, shall be able and capable in law to sue and be sued, contract and be contracted with, plead and be impleaded, in any court, or before any judge or justice, in any and all manner of suits, complaints, pleas and demands of whatsoever nature, kind or form they may be, and all and every matter and thing to do in as full and effectual manner as any other person or persons, bodies politic and corporate within this State, can or may.

(8.) Report of Committee on Young Peoples' Societies.

Your Committee on Young Peoples' Societies submits the following:

1. We desire to re-affirm the action of the General Conference of 1892 in relation to the Young Peoples' Societies of Christian Endeavor, and to congratulate our Church that the wise action then taken has been productive of splendid results. We find that the statistics furnished at the last quadrennial session gave the membership of the various societies in our denomination as 10,965, while the very best information obtainable by your committee at present, shows an increase of over 100 per cent. in societies organized, with a membership approximating 35,000. This is a magnificent result, and calls for unfeigned gratitude to Almighty God.

2. We cannot emphasize too strongly the vital necessity of complete connection between the Church and the Christian Endeavor Societies, and we urge upon our pastors the need of strong and loving sympathy on their part toward these societies, to the end that the glory of God may be attained and our young people cemented to the church by indissoluble ties.

3. We desire to call upon our Conferences to consider the organizing of junior societies in connection with every church throughout their districts, for while there may be some appointments where the scarcity of young people would seem to place obstacles in the way of young peoples' societies, yet there is no community so barren but that it affords a field for junior endeavor effort, and such effort will necessarily, later on, eventuate in a young peoples' society.

4. We recommend that each pastor be required to send statistics of the societies on his work to the Secretary of the Denominational Union, and that Annual Conference Secretaries be required to send a copy of the Annual Conference minutes to the same official.

5. In view of the mighty proportions of organizations in our midst it would seem that we are not reaping fruits of enlarged denominational activity and growth commensurate with the array of figures given, but the Christian Endeavor Society, as a vital force, is being almost wholly absorbed in the work of local churches and conference enterprises. That our denominational enterprises may feel the impulse of this new tide of life, and we may secure denominational training and co-operation through our Christian Endeavor Societies, we recommend that this Conference approve a course of reading, and indorse some denominational enterprise for their united support.

6. Your committee would express its keen regret that the Board of Publication found it necessary to discontinue the publication of *Our Young People*, and we urge that a periodical of this kind is an absolute necessity to the Church. It meets the need at the most critical period of Church life. We urge upon this General Conference the adoption of some plan looking to the continuation of this publication, or the substitution of one equally effective.

W. D. STULTZ,
J. F. COWAN,
G. E. McMANIMAN,

F. R. HARRIS,
J. G. COLEMAN.

bursements to be kept in a book or books kept for that purpose, and its Treasurer shall exhibit to the General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church at each regular session of said Conference a full and accurate report of the state of the accounts of said corporation.

Approved April 2, 1896.

(10.) Report of Committee on Judiciary.

1. A decision is asked upon the following :

Is there any or sufficient provision in the Discipline for dealing with cases of injury to character which may have arisen during disputes concerning debts and settled by arbitration according to Discipline, page 58, Section 9 ?

Your Committee is of the opinion that Sections 1 and 2, pages 54 and 55 of the Discipline, make ample provision for these and all similar cases.

2. The following inquiry was referred to your Committee :

If a minister is charged and tried before a committee, and from the evidence a verdict of guilty is rendered, and the minister is expelled, and he fails or refuses to take an appeal, but afterwards joins the Methodist Protestant Church, is licensed to preach, and preaches three or four years under his new license as a local preacher ; can his parchments be restored to him without re-ordination ?

Your Committee answer, they cannot.

3. A communication from the President of the West Michigan Annual Conference to the President of the General Conference was referred and ruling asked upon certain points.

This communication recites that a church at Elkhart, Indiana, is within the bounds of the West Michigan District; that since the last General Conference this church, of another denomination, within the bounds of West Michigan Conference, together with its pastor, Rev. S. Heininger, was received into the Methodist Protestant Church, by uniting with the Indiana Conference; and further that Rev. S. Heininger, residing within the bounds of the West Michigan Conference, was elected by the Indiana Annual Conference, at its last session, as a representative from that Conference to the present General Conference.

In view of the above facts, believing it a matter pertaining to law, a ruling is desired as to the eligibility of Rev. S. Heininger to a seat in this General Conference.

(a) The judgment of your Committee is that inasmuch as Rev. S. Heininger was regularly received into the Indiana Annual Conference, as appears from the facts of the communication, and that he was duly elected to represent that Conference in this General Conference, the fact of residence without the bounds of the Conference does not impair his eligibility to a seat in this body.

(b) Your Committee recommends that that part of the communication which relates to the local church be referred to the Committee on Boundaries, to review the facts and to determine the proper conference relation of the church.

SEC. 5. *And be it enacted.* That the said body corporate and its successors shall be and are hereby authorized and empowered to make, ordain and establish by-laws, regulations and ordinances, and do everything incident and needful for the support and due government of said corporation, and managing the funds and revenue thereof; provided the said by-laws, regulations and ordinances shall not be repugnant to the Constitution and Laws of the United States, or of the State of Maryland, or to the constitution, discipline, rules and regulations of the Methodist Protestant Church.

SEC. 6. *And be it enacted,* That the said corporation shall consist of about fourteen persons, who shall be members of the Methodist Protestant Church, in good and regular standing, who shall be elected by the said General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church at its regular sessions held according to the constitution and discipline of said Church; provided, that in case the place of any member of said corporation shall become vacant by death, resignation, disqualification or otherwise during the interim between the regular sessions of said General Conference, then the remaining members of said corporation may fill any such vacancies, and the new members of said corporation thus elected shall hold office until the next session of the said General Conference, or until their successor shall be elected; and provided further, that in case said General Conference shall at any regular session fail to elect the members of said corporation as above provided, then the members previously elected and then holding office shall continue in office until the next session of said General Conference, or until their successors are duly elected hereunder.

SEC. 7. *And be it enacted,* That the said corporation under its said corporate name shall have power to take and hold by donation, gift, grant, devise, bequest or otherwise, any property, real, personal or mixed, in the State of Maryland, or in any other State of the United States, in behalf of and for the benefit of the said General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church, and the same to manage, grant, convey, lease or otherwise dispose of, and to execute such trusts as may be confided to said corporation, the whole to be under the supervision of and amenable to the General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church

SEC. 8. *And be it enacted,* That said corporation shall also be deemed competent to receive and administer any special benevolent trust on behalf of the Methodist Protestant Church, or any religious, charitable or benevolent object connected with said Church that may be confided or entrusted to it.

SEC. 9. *And be it enacted,* That said corporation shall have a President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer, such officers to be chosen from its own members as often as they may see proper, and according to rules to be by them prescribed, and the said corporation shall have authority to appoint such other officers and servants or agents as shall be deemed necessary.

SEC. 10. *And be it enacted,* That eight members of said corporation shall be sufficient number to transact the business thereof and to make by-laws and regulations.

SEC. 11. *And be it enacted,* That the said corporation shall cause fair and regular entries of its proceedings and a just account of all receipts and dis-

Resolved, That we call upon all our people to keep the Sabbath of the Lord holy, as He has commanded us in His Word, by abstaining from all unnecessary business on the Lord's day, such as buying, selling, making business engagements, and especially the demoralizing Sunday excursions, whether on train, steamer, bicycle, or in any way; and that we spend the Lord's day in a true Christian manner, and thus, by example, show to others that we remember the Sabbath to keep it holy.

Resolved, That we most cordially unite with all who love and reverence the Christian Sabbath, to secure the enforcement of our present Sabbath laws, and, wherever possible, the enactment of still better laws, so that we, as a nation, may, indeed, be a people who sacredly observe the Christian Sabbath.

(Signed)

BENJAMIN STOUT,

O. L. PALMER,

N. M. PEOPLES,

W. P. PICKETT.

SAMUEL HEININGER,

(12.) Report of Committee on Publishing Houses.

To the General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church:

The Committee on Publishing Houses respectfully presents the following report, to wit:

1. We have examined the reports of the Book Directories of Pittsburgh and Baltimore respectively, which were referred to us, and we are pleased to say that these interests show a net gain for the quadrennium, and exhibit a prudent and economical business management. The Pittsburgh Directory reports its present assets over liabilities to be \$53 437 08, a net gain of \$154.25, and the Baltimore Directory reports its present assets over liabilities to be \$8,271.18, a net gain of \$596.87.

2. That the present circulation of our Sunday-school literature is 139,840, showing an increase of 11,000 in the circulation. This is a gratifying exhibit, and shows an increasing appreciation of the excellence of our Sunday-school literature; but we feel sure there is yet opportunity in our church to still further increase this circulation and to enlarge the usefulness of this important branch of our church work, by a loyal support on the part of every church of our own Sunday-school publications; and we urgently recommend that all literature except such as may issue from our own publishing houses be excluded from our Sunday-schools.

3. The circulation of our official church papers, *The Methodist Recorder* and *The Methodist Protestant*, has not been materially increased, and the present circulation of these papers must be largely increased to place them on a profitable footing. The potent influence of these agencies of the Church cannot be overestimated, and they must be sustained by a more liberal patronage if we sincerely desire to strengthen our Church and enlarge her borders. The patronage of our Church organs is the scale by which is measured both our intelligence as a Church and our appreciation of our Church connection and privileges. And it is these agencies by which a people, scattered over a wide territory, are

4. Your Committee recommends the adoption of the following resolutions :

Resolved, That Overtures 2 and 3, adopted by the last General Conference, be and hereby are referred to the Annual Conferences again, and that we urge action be taken, either pro or con, upon them.

As changes of the constitution become law, immediately on adoption, by two-thirds of the Conferences,

Resolved, That the Presidents of the Annual Conferences are hereby required to present these Overtures to their respective Conferences, at their next sessions, and to notify the President of the General Conference at once of the action of their Conferences on said Overtures.

5. J. H. Robinson presented a paper desiring that the Conference declare that the words "subject to the decision of the Quarterly Conference," Art. IV, p. 18, Sec. 1, of the Discipline, be only in force until the next meeting of the Annual Conference, whose decision shall be binding.

On this paper, by the representative from New York, we report:

The law of Sec. 1, Art. XVIII, p. 17, of the Discipline on receiving churches is intended as an enabling act in the interim of the Annual Conference ; but the failure or refusal of the adjacent Quarterly Conference to recognize a newly organized church does not prohibit the Annual Conference from receiving the church into its jurisdiction, according to Sec. 2, Art. VII, p. 21, of the Discipline.

6. T. J. Strickler submitted the following paper: "When a member of a church applies to the pastor, asking to have his name dropped from the roll, what steps should the pastor take?" On this paper your committee report:

1. Any member of the church against whom no charges have been preferred and whose moral character stands fair, can withdraw from the church, either with or without a testimonial, at his pleasure, and if he demands a testimonial the pastor, under the law, must grant it.

2. This view of your committee must not be construed otherwise than that the pastor may use every proper effort to induce such member to retain his connection with the church.

L. W. BATES,	J. L. SCARBOROUGH,
M. L. JENNINGS,	C. W. HOLSWADE,
C. A. CECIL,	J. L. OGBURN.

(11.) Report of Committee on the Christian Sabbath.

WHEREAS, There is an alarming tendency on the part of many citizens of our country to desecrate our Holy Sabbath day, by buying, selling and other transactions of business, and pleasure excursions and other amusements; and,

WHEREAS, Many who have come to our shores from other countries, where the Christian Sabbath is not observed, and seem to think that this land of the free and home of the brave is a proper place to spread vicious and unchristian sentiments; therefore,

Resolved, That we call upon all our people to keep the Sabbath of the Lord holy, as He has commanded us in His Word, by abstaining from all unnecessary business on the Lord's day, such as buying, selling, making business engagements, and especially the demoralizing Sunday excursions, whether on train, steamer, bicycle, or in any way; and that we spend the Lord's day in a true Christian manner, and thus, by example, show to others that we remember the Sabbath to keep it holy.

Resolved, That we most cordially unite with all who love and reverence the Christian Sabbath, to secure the enforcement of our present Sabbath laws, and, wherever possible, the enactment of still better laws, so that we, as a nation, may, indeed, be a people who sacredly observe the Christian Sabbath.

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Resolved, That the Presidents of the Annual Conferences are hereby required to present these Overtures to their respective Conferences, at their next sessions, and to notify the President of the General Conference at once of the action of their Conferences on said Overtures.

5. J. H. Robinson presented a paper desiring that the Conference declare that the words "subject to the decision of the Quarterly Conference," Art. IV, p. 18, Sec. 1, of the Discipline, be only in force until the next meeting of the Annual Conference, whose decision shall be binding.

On this paper, by the representative from New York, we report:

The law of Sec. 1, Art. XVIII, p. 17, of the Discipline on receiving churches is intended as an enabling act in the interim of the Annual Conference; but the failure or refusal of the adjacent Quarterly Conference to recognize a newly organized church does not prohibit the Annual Conference from receiving the church into its jurisdiction, according to Sec. 2, Art. VII, p. 21, of the Discipline.

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WHEREAS, Many who have come to our shores from other countries, where the Christian Sabbath is not observed, and seem to think that this land of the free and home of the brave is a proper place to spread vicious and unchristian sentiments; therefore,

9. We endorse the recommendation for the issuance of an intermediate Sunday School Lesson Quarterly, and recommend that the Board of Publication be authorized to make all necessary arrangements in relation thereto.

10. We recommend the Board of Publication be authorized and directed to appoint a committee to revise the indexes of the "Tribute of Praise," and to make such other changes in the book as may be feasible, and provide for the publication of the same.

11. We recommend that the same business relations now existing between the Pittsburgh and Baltimore Directories be continued, and we reaffirm the authority of the Board of Publication over all Sunday-school literature.

12. We nominate for election as members of the Baltimore Directory the following named brethren: John G. Clarke, J. W. Hering, Daniel Baker, J. T. Murray, and F. T. Little.

13. We nominate for election as members of the Pittsburgh Directory the following named brethren: William K. Gillespie, William P. Herbert, W. H. Sciveter, John Scott, and W. S. Cairnes.

14. We recommend that J. F. Cowan, editor of our Sunday-school literature, be sent as a delegate to the World's Sunday School Convention, to be held in London, England, in July, 1898, and that his expenses, as suggested by the Board of Publication, be borne equally by the Pittsburgh and Baltimore Book Directories.

REPORT OF BOARD OF PUBLICATION.

The Board of Publication respectfully submits to the General Conference the following report for the quadrennium ending with the 29th of February, 1896.

During the quadrennium only one meeting of the Board has been held; this was held in Pittsburgh, Pa., April 15, 1896.

We submit herewith the reports of the Directories showing the business done during the four years, and the condition of each Directory at the close of each year.

One change has occurred in the membership of the Board during the quadrennium. On the 19th of March, 1894, Horace Burrough, of the Baltimore Directory and Secretary of the Board of Publication, tendered his resignation as a member of the Board. The resignation was accepted, and F. T. Little duly elected Secretary to fill the unexpired term of Mr. Burrough. Daniel Baker was elected a member of the Baltimore Directory to fill the vacancy occasioned therein by the resignation of Mr. Burrough.

The following slight changes were made in the prices of our Sunday-school publications at the meeting of the Board: *Our Morning Guide* was reduced in price, to single subscribers, from eighty cents per year to fifty cents for the same term. *Our Children* from forty cents per year, to single subscribers, to twenty-five cents per year. *Our Scholars' Quarterly* was increased in price from eleven cents per year to schools, to twelve cents for the same term. It was also decided to improve this publication by the addition of a cover, and to further improve *Our Teachers' Journal* by giving additional space for matter looking to the better equipment of teachers.

brought frequently together in sweet and profitable communions, and are brought to an intelligent understanding of our common Church and mutual interests. We, therefore, recommend that this General Conference emphasize both the duty and necessity of a more liberal and general patronage and support of our Church organs, as a liberal support thereof is necessary to our growth, prosperity and life as a denomination, and is essential that these agencies of our Church may attain unto their highest state of usefulness.

4. We note, with regret, the action of the Board of Publication in suspending the publication of *Our Young People*, but feel constrained, under the conditions which influenced their action, to approve the same, but in so doing we desire to say that, in our opinion, it would be disastrous to our Church interests and its future hope, to totally abandon the publication of some paper adapted to the needs of our young people, for in them lie the future of our Church, and we must jealously care for them, even at a sacrifice, if necessary; and we regard this matter of such vital importance, that we urgently recommend the General Conference to authorize the Board of Publication to arrange with either one of our Book Directories that may be willing to undertake the publication of a suitable paper for our young people, to publish the same, and that the enterprise be endorsed by the Conference and commended to the Church.

5. We recommend that this General Conference endorse and commend to our Church the following highly meritorious works of general interest to our Church, which are the productions of brethren whose standing and ability in our Conference and Church connection is so well known they need no word of commendation from us, viz: "Recollections of Fifty Years in the Ministry," by the venerable John Scott, of the Pittsburgh Conference; "A Catechism of the History, Doctrine and Polity of the Methodist Protestant Church," by the same author; "The History of Methodist Reform," by E. J. Drinkhouse, of the Maryland Conference, and the Divine Authority of the Bible, by T. H. Lewis, of the Maryland Conference.

T. H. Lewis having signified his purpose to make his own arrangements for the publication of his sermons on the Divine Authority of the Bible, no recommendation is necessary from this committee; but as to the other works named, we feel that they should be published without unnecessary delay, and the Board of Publication being unable financially to undertake their publication without some guarantee of reimbursement, we recommend that the Board of Publication issue a prospectus of each of the works named, and take such steps as they may deem expedient to secure a guaranteed subscription sufficient to pay the cost of their publication, allowing to the original subscribers such discounts as in the judgment of the Board may seem proper and necessary.

6. We submit herewith the report of the Board of Publication, and recommend its adoption.

7. We submit herewith the report of the Pittsburgh Directory, and recommend its adoption.

8. We submit herewith the report of the Baltimore Directory, and recommend its adoption.

The following recommendations, adopted by the Board, are herewith presented:

1. "The General Conference of 1892 having commended the purpose of E. J. Drinkhouse to prepare a history of the Methodist Protestant Church, recommended that the manuscript, when prepared, be submitted to the Board of Publication. Dr. Drinkhouse having completed the work and submitted it, as above provided, to representatives of the Board of Publication, and these members of the Board having given unreserved approval of the manuscript history, we recommend it to the General Conference for its endorsement, and suggest that some means for its publication, if possible, be devised by that body."

2. We recommend that the General Conference elect the editor of our Sunday-school literature to represent our Church in the "World's Sunday-school Convention," to meet in London, Eng., in July, 1898, and that you authorize the necessary expense, covering travel to and from London and board during the time of said convention, be met equally by the Pittsburgh and Baltimore Directories.

3. The Board of Publication unanimously recommends to the General Conference that it appoint a suitable committee to compile a new hymn book for the Church.

W. K. GILLESPIE, *President*.

F. T. LITTLE, *Secretary*.

REPORT OF THE PITTSBURGH DIRECTORY OF THE METHODIST PROTESTANT CHURCH, FOR THE FOUR YEARS ENDING MARCH 1ST, 1896.

The Pittsburgh Directory submits its report in this form in order that the General Conference may have, in concise statement, the information it may need regarding the book and publishing interests of the Church.

The receipts for four years were \$164,724.58, being an increase of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. over the last quadrennium.

The net assets of the Directory March 1, 1896, were \$53,437.08, against \$53,282.83 March 1, 1892, the increase being profit in the business for four years of \$154.25.

We cannot claim a large gain for this quadrennium, in truth, we are glad to be able to show that there has been no loss. We have been compelled to lessen our expenses wherever possible, to reduce our salaries, and to buy only what was absolutely necessary.

The Methodist Recorder had, on March 1, 1884, 4,820 subscribers; March 1, 1888, 5,829; March 1, 1892, 5,391, March 1, 1896, 4,536. This paper has suffered, as have most denominational papers, on account of the "hard times" of 1893, '94 and 95. The subscription list reached its lowest point March 1, 1895, when it was but 4,309. During the last year there has been a gain of 227. The foregoing include the paid subscriptions only, and not the exchanges and free copies. During the year ending March 1, 1896, we received \$6,308.02 from the 4,536 subscribers, being an average of \$1.39 each. The expenses of the *Recorder* for the last year were \$10,486.99, or an average cost of \$2.31 for each of the 4,536 subscribers; hence every subscriber who paid \$1.50 for his *Recorder* received a paper that cost us \$2.31. The *Recorder* was printed,

The Board, at the same time, after carefully considering the circulation and business condition of *Our Young People*, decided, regretfully, to discontinue the publication of that paper at the close of the present volume, in June. An experiment of seven years, attended with money losses each year, and a large shrinkage in the circulation during the quadrennium, made this step necessary. This decision, however correct from a business view, does not relieve our Church from a responsibility it must face. Should not our denomination furnish our young men and women such a paper as will meet their necessities? We submit this question to the wisdom and discretion of the General Conference.

Our publications at present are as follows :

The Methodist Protestant, published in Baltimore, Md., \$2 per year; clubs, \$1.50.

The Methodist Recorder, published in Pittsburgh, Pa., \$2 per year; clubs, \$1.50.

Our Morning Guide, weekly, 50 cents per year, single copy; 36 cents per year to schools; circulation, 14,540.

Our Children, weekly, illustrated; a paper for the little ones; 25 cents per year, single copy; 15 cents per year to schools; circulation, 30,300.

Our Teachers' Journal, quarterly; single copy, 50 cents per year; to schools, 10 cents per quarter, 35 cents per year; circulation, 9,000.

Our Scholars' Quarterly, 38 pages, quarterly; to schools 3 cents per quarter, 12 cents per year, circulation, 61,900.

Our Bible School Lesson Leaf, monthly; to schools, half-cent per month, 5 cents per year; circulation, 25,000.

The circulation of our official church papers remains about as in 1892. The circulation of our Sunday-school literature shows a gratifying increase of 11,000, being now 139,840, making no account of the unexpired subscriptions to *Our Young People*.

Your Board has authorized its official imprint upon a volume of sermons; when published, on the Divine Authority of the Bible, by T. H. Lewis, president of Western Maryland College. These sermons are a series preached by President Lewis to the students of the college, and are a fresh, vigorous, scholarly treatment of questions which are engaging the attention of thoughtful readers everywhere. Those who have been privileged to hear or read them give to the sermons unreserved praise, and are enthusiastic in the desire for the publication of the book.

The Board also authorized its official imprint, when published, upon the volume entitled, "Recollections of Fifty Years in the Ministry," by the venerable John Scott, of the Pittsburgh Conference. The manuscript has been read by two or three prominent ministers of our Church, who pronounce it a work of great interest and value to the denomination, including, as it does, much of the important history of the past half century, coming within the personal knowledge of its author. And upon the volume, by the same author, entitled, "A Catechism of the History, Doctrine and Polity of the Methodist Protestant Church."

After careful consideration, it was decided to improve the property. Contracts were let as soon as plans could be prepared, and all diligence given to the work, but the building was not completed before April 1, 1893. This was a great disappointment and cost us seriously by reason of losing the rents of 1893, and afterwards rents declined so that our income from the building has not been up to our expectations. To pay for the improvements the Directory borrowed \$40,000 at 5 per cent. for five years—due in 1898.

The Book-room property was purchased by the Directory, in 1873, from the First Methodist Protestant Church of Pittsburgh, at a cost of \$19,071.64. The First Church reserved in the deed the right to include the sale of the Book-room property with its own, provided both could be sold to a better advantage together than separately. In 1892, before beginning to build, the Directory paid off the mortgage of \$8,000 upon the property, held by the First Church, being balance of the purchase money; and also, by the payment of \$1,000 additional, obtained the release of the reserved right of the First Church, thus securing a clear title to the property purchased in 1873.

In the summer of 1893 our new building was completed, at a total cost of \$47,148.03. But the financial panic of that year and the year following so affected the business of Pittsburgh that it has been impossible to rent, even at a very low rental, all our store rooms and offices. During the past three years the new building has come far short of meeting its expenses. However, at this time, May 1, 1896, but one office remains unoccupied, and the indications are that during this year it will not be operated at a loss. In the place of the old structure (the original parsonage of the First Church) we now have a modern six story, stone-front building, with cellar, two large store rooms, one composers' room, three editorial rooms, two church parlors and eighteen business offices. The property is assessed by the city at \$79,000, and is worth at a fair valuation \$90,000.

The Tribute of Praise has been used in the Methodist Protestant Church for fourteen years, and the aggregate sales to March 1, 1896, have been:

Music edition	31,712 copies.
Word edition.....	21,450 “

The sales have fallen off somewhat, as only 3,472 copies of the music and 4,312 of the word edition were sold during this quadrennium.

The Directory owns the stereotype plates from which the two editions are printed, but pays a royalty of ten cents a copy on the music edition and two and one-half cents a copy on the word edition, to the estate of Dr. Eben Tourjee.

The Pittsburgh Directory and the Board of Publication recommend to the General Conference that it appoint a committee to compile a new Hymn Book for the Church.

Bassett's History and Snethen's Manuscripts.—The Directory owns the plates of Bassett's History of the Methodist Protestant Church, and it has on hand five hundred unbound sheets of the history. The Directory also has the manuscript writings of Rev. Nicholas Snethen, embracing his biography, ser-

during the first three years of the quadrennium, at a loss of over \$2,500. For the last year the loss was \$56.23.

Sunday School Periodicals. The receipts for the four years, March, 1, 1892, to March 1, 1896, were \$75,134.71, an increase of \$9,285.31 over the preceding four years.

The growth of all our Sunday school periodicals, with the exception of *Our Young People*, has been gratifying.

By action of the Board of Publication, at its meeting in Pittsburgh April 15, 1896, the prices of single copies of *Our Morning Guide* and *Our Children* were reduced from 80 cents and 40 cents a year to 50 cents and 25 cents a year, respectively. Several suggestions of the editor of the Sunday-school periodicals, looking to the improvement of the *Teachers' Journal* and of *Our Morning Guide*, were adopted; also an increase in the size of the page for *Our Children*, and the enlargement of the *Bible School Quarterly* by the addition of a suitable cover.

Our Young People has been published at a loss of several hundred dollars each year, and during the year ending March 1, 1896, suffered a decrease of six hundred subscribers. The Christian Endeavor Society, as an organization, has failed to support it, four-fifths of the subscriptions coming from the Sunday-schools. At this time, May 1, 1896, the paper has about four thousand subscribers, distributed as follows among the various Conferences:

Pittsburgh, 1,026; Muskingum, 593; Ohio, 412; West Virginia, 246; Maryland, 207; Indiana, 178; North Illinois, 170; New York, 187; Iowa, 149; Michigan, 138; South Illinois, 124; Kansas, 86; North Carolina, 85; Genessee, 80; Oregon, 50; Alabama, 40; Texas, 40; Missouri, 37; Onondaga, 27; Nebraska, 19; New Jersey, 17; West Michigan, 10.

The average number of the Sunday-school periodicals printed during last year was as follows:

Bible School Quarterly.....	61,000
Bible School Leaf.....	25,000
Bible School Journal.....	9,000
Our Morning Guide.....	14 540
Our Children.....	30 300
Our Young People.....	5,021

By action of the Board of Publication *Our Young People* will be discontinued at the end of June, 1896, unless some plan can be devised to make it pay expenses.

The Book-room.—The book business has been carried on at a loss of \$1,330.95 for the second and third years of the quadrennium, and with a gain of \$158.86 for the first and the last years.

No books have been published, for the reason that no money could be spared from the business to be put into books that would not return their cost within a year.

The Book-room Property.—The General Conference of 1892 authorized the Directory to sell, lease or improve the Book-room property, whichever should be deemed best.

STATEMENT OF CONDITION, MARCH 1, 1896.

ASSETS.

Book-room Property, carried on books	
March 1, 1892, at.....	\$40,000 00
New Publishing House erected during	
1892-3.....	47,148 03
Present Value of Book room Property.....	\$87,148 03
Stereotype Plates ("Bassett's History," "Tribute of	
Praise," etc.)	582 17
Engravings, 3,741 Electrotypes, valued at.....	603 96
Printing Material, Type, etc.....	398 32
Store and Office Furniture and Fixtures.....	1,341 78
Suspended Accounts, valued at.....	288 81
Copyright, Snethen's Works.....	100 00
Stocks, Salem Land.....	40 00
Bills Receivable, Notes.....	67 34
Accounts Receivable, Books and Merchandise.....	1,999 17
" " Advertising	1,036 67
Books and Merchandise	6,389 70
Cash in Bank.....	903 69
Indiana Land.....	424 74
Edinburg Bequest.....	37 15
Total Assets	\$101,361 53

LIABILITIES.

Mortgage on Book-room Property.....	\$40,000 00
Bills Payable.....	1,325 72
Loans	4,800 00
Thomas New Fund	1,798 73
Total Liabilities.....	47,924 45
(Stock.) Net Assets.....	\$ 53,437 08

STOCK ACCOUNT.

Balance, Net Capital, March 1, 1892.....	\$53,282 83
Net Loss year ending March 1, 1893.....	\$ 756 39
" " March 1, 1894.....	1,245 79
" " March 1, 1895.....	123 56
.....	\$2,125 74
Net Profit for year ending March 1, 1896...	2,279 99
Net profit for four years.....	\$ 154 25
Balance to New Account. (Net Capital Mar. 1, 1896).	\$53,437 08

mons, addresses and other papers, the copyright of which was purchased at a cost of one hundred dollars.

The "*Thomas New Fund*," which amounts to \$1,798.73, is carried on the books of the Directory as a liability, the interest being used in making donations, mainly to new or needy Sunday-schools.

This bequest was made to the Pittsburgh Directory by Rev. Thomas New, of Florida, in 1885, "to be used in supplying books and periodicals to individuals and to Sunday-schools unable to purchase them." During the past four years donations to the amount of \$485.09 have been made.

Indiana Land.—In the latter part of 1893, we learned from a letter forwarded to us from Springfield, Ohio, that we were the probable owners of forty acres of swamp land in Starke county, Indiana. Upon investigation it was found that February 3, 1865, there was recorded in Knox, the county seat of Starke county, Indiana, a deed from Reuben M. Dalby and wife, to the M. P. Book Concern, Springfield, Ohio, for forty acres of land in said county. The taxes on this land were unpaid for a number of years. It was once put up for sale by the sheriff, but no one would bid it in. However, in 1892, the great "William's Ditch" was cut through one corner and along one side of the land. At once it came into the market and was sold for a ditch claim of \$120. After two years of effort we think the Directory now has a clear title to the land at a cost of \$424.74. We have been offered \$500 for it, but the offer was refused.

Edinburg Bequest.—Joseph S. Gregory, of Edinburg, Indiana, in 1862 made a will in which, among others, was this provision: "And I further direct my said executor, after all needful expenses are paid, to pay over all the money in his hands, so accruing from my estate, in the following manner: that is, one-third to the Board of Trust of the Western Methodist Protestant and Book Concern of the Northern and Western Conference of the M. P. Church, to be used by said Board of Trust in promoting the interest of said Paper and Book Concern."

Joseph S. Gregory died in 1873, but by the provisions of his will his estate was not to be finally settled until the death of his wife. She died in 1893. James Shipp, the executor, has written us that he has in his hands for distribution about \$1,400, but that out of this will have to be paid the expense of settling the estate. The will was not clear, and Mr. Shipp has brought suit to have it construed. The Directory is defendant in this suit, because "The Pittsburgh Directory" is the Springfield, Ohio, corporation under another name. If our claim is sustained we shall get one-third of whatever remains after paying the expense of settling the estate.

DISBURSEMENTS.

Books Bought.....	\$24,117 88	
Printing Paper.....	24,272 33	
Press Work.....	13,339 47	
Printing Office.....	23,896 31	
Editorial Salaries.....	16,743 81	
Business Department Salaries.....	12,881 92	
Postage and Mailing Expenses.....	7,216 79	
Engravings.....	1,060 28	
Printing Material.....	848 23	
Commissions.....	1,486 60	
Store and Office Fixtures.....	381 29	
Copyright on "Tribute of Praise".....	539 98	
Bad Accounts, charged to Profit and Loss.....	663 49	
Stamps.....	3,131 16	
Traveling Expenses.....	820 85	
Rebate to Baltimore House.....	77 80	
Rents.....	7,767 00	
Interest on Mortgage.....	4,882 66	
Taxes and Insurance.....	4,793 60	
Expense, Sundries.....	4,201 74	
" Operating Publishing House.....	7,527 59	
" Moving.....	413 94	
Interest and Discount.....	126 84	
Repairs.....	19 51	
Donations.....	131 13	
Advertising Expenses.....	354 57	
Stocks.....	15 00	
		<hr/>
Total Disbursements.....		\$161,711 78
Merchandise on hand March 1, 1892.....		9,248 25
Net Loss year ending March 1, 1893.....	\$ 756 39	
" " March 1, 1894.....	1,245 79	
" " March 1, 1895.....	123 56	
		<hr/>
Total Loss for three years.....	\$ 2,125 74	
Net Profit year ending March 1, 1896.....	2,279 99	
		<hr/>
Net Profit for four years.....		154 25
Net Cost of New Publishing House.....		47,148 03
		<hr/>
Total.....		\$218,262 31

RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS, MARCH 1, 1892, TO MARCH 1, 1896—FOUR YEARS.

RECEIPTS.

Meth. Recorder Subscriptions year ending March 1, '93.	\$7,216 27	
" " " " " March 1, '94.	6,701 13	
" " " " " March 1, '95.	6,103 07	
" " " " " March 1, '96.	6,308 02	
*Decrease 14 per cent.		\$ 26,328 49

Meth. Recorder Advertising year ending March 1, '93.	\$4,962 85	
" " " " " March 1, '94.	4,577 20	
" " " " " March 1, '95.	4,100 00	
" " " " " March 1, '96.	4,122 74	
*Decrease 7 per cent.		17,762 79

Sunday School Periodicals year ending March 1, '93...	\$17,674 88	
" " " " " March 1, '94...	18,567 75	
" " " " " March 1, '95...	19,229 99	
" " " " " March 1, '96...	19,662 09	
*Increase 14 per cent.		75,134 71

Book Sales year ending March 1, '93.....	\$10,090 36	
" " " " " March 1, '94.....	8,724 33	
" " " " " March 1, '95.....	7,469 80	
" " " " " March 1, '96.....	7,478 49	
*Decrease 20 per cent.		33,762 98

Interest and Discount.....	\$ 292 15	
Waste Paper.....	31 71	
Rents.....	11,411 75	
		11,735 61

Total Receipts *Increase 2½ per cent	\$164,724 58
Books and Merchandise on hand March 1, '96.....	6,389 70
Add Increased Value Book-room Property.....	47,148 03
Total.....	\$218,262 31

*Compared with previous quadrennium.

RECEIPTS BY YEARS.

Year ending March 1, 1893.....	\$40,159 98
" " " " " March 1, 1894.....	40,786 13
" " " " " March 1, 1895.....	41,962 81
" " " " " March 1, 1896.....	41,815 66
Total.....	\$164,724 58

LIABILITIES.

Accounts Payable	\$1,023 12
Net Assets.....	\$8,271 18
Net Assets March 1, 1892	7,674 31
Increase	\$596 87

CIRCULATION.

Methodist Protestant.....	4,115
Sunday-school Periodicals.....	30,720

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES, MARCH 1, 1892, to MARCH 1, 1896—FOUR YEARS.

RECEIPTS.

Methodist Protestant Subscriptions year ending March 1, 1893.....	\$7,354 49	
Methodist Protestant Subscriptions year ending March 1, 1894.....	7,813 73	
Methodist Protestant Subscriptions year ending March 1, 1895.....	7,408 83	
Methodist Protestant Subscriptions year ending March 1, 1896.....	7,927 04	
	<hr/>	\$30,504 09
Methodist Protestant Advertisements year ending March 1, 1893.....	\$1,637 09	
Methodist Protestant Advertisements year ending March 1, 1894.....	1,610 72	
Methodist Protestant Advertisements year ending March 1, 1895.....	1,736 60	
Methodist Protestant Advertisements year ending March 1, 1896.....	1,581 02	
	<hr/>	6,565 43
Sunday School Periodicals year ending March 1, 1893...	\$5,815 94	
“ “ “ “ 1, 1894...	5,900 74	
“ “ “ “ 1, 1895...	5 980 04	
“ “ “ “ 1, 1896...	6,154 67	
	<hr/>	23,851 39
Book Sales year ending March 1, 1893.....	\$2,442 06	
“ “ “ 1, 1894	3,019 56	
“ “ “ 1, 1895.....	2,599 10	
“ “ “ 1, 1896.....	2,364 43	
	<hr/>	10,425 15
Interest year ending March 1, 1893.....	\$160 37	
“ “ “ 1, 1894.....	145 07	
“ “ “ 1, 1895.....	150 67	
“ “ “ 1, 1896.....	140 00	
	<hr/>	596 11
Total.....		\$71,942 17

A COMPARATIVE STATEMENT.

	March 1, 1896.	March 1, 1895.
Receipts—Methodist Recorder, Subscriptions.....	\$6,308 02	\$6,103 07
“ “ “ Advertising	4,122 74	4,100 00
“ Sunday-school Periodicals.....	19,662 09	19,229 99
“ Book Sales.....	7,478 49	7,469 80
“ Rents.....	4,237 82	5,036 43
“ Miscellaneous.....	6 50	23 52
Receipts—All Sources.....	\$41,815 66	\$41,962 81
Net Circulation Methodist Recorder.....	4,536	4,309
Gain.....		227

CIRCULATION OF PERIODICALS.

	Total Printed.	Average.
Methodist Recorder.....	228,750	5,553
Bible School Quarterly.....	244,000	61,000
“ Leaf.....	300,000	25,000
“ Journal.....	36,000	9,000
Morning Guide.....	756,000	14,540
Our Children.....	1,576,000	30,300
Our Young People.....	261,100	5,021
Total.....	3,461,859	
Average.....		150,414

REPORT OF AUDITING COMMITTEE.

The undersigned, appointed to audit the accounts of the Directory, have examined the books and statements of the agent and found them correct and in good order.

We take pleasure in commending the publishing agent, U. S. Fleming, for the faithful and efficient service given the Directory in the past quadrennium.

May 8, 1896.

WM P. HERBERT,

WILLIAM K. GILLESPIE.

REPORT OF BALTIMORE BOOK DIRECTORY—ASSETS AND LIABILITIES, MARCH, 1
1892 TO MARCH, 1, 1896—FOUR YEARS.

ASSETS.

Office Furniture and Store Fixtures.....	\$50 00	
Merchandise (Books, Stationery, Printing Paper).....		
“ (Accounts Recievable).....	2,221 56	
Due from Subscribers to Methodist Protestant.....	1,434 10	
“ “ Advertisers	395 83	
“ “ Doubtful Accounts—\$1,102.51 at 20 per cent...	220 50	
Stocks and other Securities.....	2,400 00	
Cash on hand and in Bank	2,572 31	
		\$9,244 30

(13.) Report of Committee on Statistics.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE.	Ministers and Preachers.	Unstationed Ministers and Preachers.	Members.	Probationers.	Churches.	Parsonages.	Value of Church Property.
Alabama.....	31	11	✓ 5,079	190	86	6	\$65,893
“ (col.).....	7	4	500	7	7	.....	1,000
Arkansas.....	32	35	5,733	.....	71½	16	26,431
“ (col.).....	17	.....	488	11	9	.....	500
Baltimore (col.).....	16	.....	238	.....	10	7	.....
Central Texas.....	39	32	2,181	13	38	4	14,938
Colorado-Texas.....	30	30	1,744	96	5	4	4,475
“ “ (col.).....	20	11	700	10	11	2	4,324
Charleston Mission (col.)	17	19	996	.....	15	2	11,450
Florida.....	7	3	350	64	11	.....	2,500
Fort Smith.....	30	6	1,514	75	8	.....	4,500
Genessee.....	18	6	✓ 785	64	16½	8	42,500 ✓
Georgia.....	24	6	✓ 3,012	50	48	.....	23,500
“ *(col.).....	28	35	1,078	42	27	.....	11,990
Indiana.....	48	64	✓ 8,419	170	120½	24	182,150
Iowa.....	47	32	✓ 3,989	.....	67½	22	100,100
Indian Mission.....	20	3	710	.....	5	.....	1,200
Kansas.....	47	37	✓ 3,121	.....	31	10	58,300
Kentucky.....	36	39	1,917	226	.....	.....	8,500
Louisiana*.....	10	6	1,800	.....	30	.....	5,000
Maryland.....	146	84	✓ 21,612	1,935	276½	84	1,194,400 ✓
Michigan.....	70	33	✓ 3,651	73	73	33	139,775
Missouri.....	49	46	✓ 3,031	.....	37½	10	34,325 ✓
Mississippi.....	22	21	2,225	53	53	1	11,550
Muskingum.....	73	43	✓ 14,586	98	153	18	288,150 ✓
Nebraska.....	17	7	750	.....	8	4	7,300
New Jersey.....	35	28	✓ 3,625	130	44	15	197,625
New York.....	27	19	✓ 2,209	116	26	12	198,900
North Carolina.....	54	39	✓ 16,416	174	208	12	145,487
North Illinois.....	36	17	✓ 3,218	11	49	21	123,400
North Mississippi.....	17	5	1,239	.....	29	.....	3,875
North Missouri.....	21	21	✓ 2,191	9	29	6	24,075
Ohio.....	52	39	✓ 6,099	199	99	29	309,550 ✓
Onondaga.....	54	27	✓ 2,167	231	39	27	92,500
Washington and Oregon.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Pennsylvania.....	16	10	✓ 1,146	3	20¼	6	32,070
Pittsburgh.....	67	46	✓ 8,981	95	80½	23	551,510 ✓
South Carolina.....	9	11	1,865	26	30	2	17,300
South Illinois.....	34	10	✓ 2,449	149	50	8	43,328
Tennessee.....	11	13	✓ 1,929	.....	26	2	17,000
Texas.....	20	22	✓ 3,443	24	26¼	7	13,795
Virginia.....	17	6	✓ 2,623	38	28	.....	17,500 ✓
West Michigan.....	45	26	✓ 1,718	.....	31	17	48,000
West Virginia.....	76	121	✓ 16,076	218	319½	38	323,190
Northwest Texas.....	35	30	2,424	.....	6½	3	5,500
Japan Mission.....	12	3	254	44	3	1	5,500
St. Louis Mission.....	10	10	620	.....	6	1	.....
Chickasaw Mission*.....	11	.....	300	.....	.....	.....	.....
*Last quadrennium. '92.	1,550	1,116	179,092	4,624	2,267½	484	4,524,857
Ministers and Preachers.....	1,550						1,550
Unstationed Ministers and Preachers.....		1,116					1,116
Total Full Members.....							181,758
In addition, Probationary Members.....							4,624
Making Grand Total.....							186,382

RECEIPTS BY YEARS.

Year ending March 1, 1893	\$17,409 95
“ “ 1, 1894	18,489 82
“ “ 1, 1895	17,875 24
“ “ 1, 1896	18,167 16
	<hr/> \$71,942 17

EXPENDITURES.

Books, Stationary, etc.....	\$ 715 73
Printing Paper.....	5,093 49
Presswork.....	2,757 09
Composition.....	12,260 50
Salaries.....	9,703 78
Postage and Mailing Expenses.....	6,666 62
Commission and Discounts.....	5,861 85
Sunday School Periodicals.....	15,707 31
Rent, Fuel and Light.....	2,000 00
Postage Stamps and Sundry Expenses....	846 38
Sundry Accounts.....	1,796 80
	<hr/> \$63,409 55

W. L. WELLS,
J. D. KINZER,
J. H. ALGOR,
M. D. HELMICK.
R. S. MCGARITY,

J. R. CATON,
R. T. PICKENS,
W. L. BAILEY,
W. S. WILSON,
H. M. MYERS.

STATISTICS—YOUNG PEOPLES' SOCIETY CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR.

CONFERENCES.	Societies.	Members.	Conversions.	Received into Church.	Money Raised.	Societies Taking Our Young People.
Alabama.....	3	120	.....	.....	.....	.....
Alabama, Colored.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Arkansas.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	20
Arkansas, Colored.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Baltimore, Colored.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Central Texas.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Colorado, Texas.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Colorado, Tex., Colored.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Charleston, Colored.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Florida.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Fort Smith.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Genessee.....	11	430	8	.....	\$ 244 88	120
Georgia.....	1	20	.....	.....	.....	.....
Georgia, Colored.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Indiana.....	52	1,433	.....	.....	.....	.....
Iowa.....	26	244	78	.....	1,058 54	.....
Indian Mission.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Kansas.....	37	1,313	50	.....	573 78	.....
Kentucky.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Louisiana.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Maryland.....	162	6,581	198	.....	2,777 46	.....
Michigan.....	44	1,867	45	.....	7,777 00	.....
Missouri.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Mississippi.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Muskingum.....	97	4,073	366	382	2,471 50	689
Nebraska.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
New Jersey.....	49	2,620	.....	230	937 05	71
New York.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
North Carolina.....	65	1,560	.....	.....	.....	.....
North Illinois.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
North Mississippi.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
North Missouri.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Ohio.....	53	2,105	66	.....	533 14	97
Onondaga.....	23	915	.....	.....	417 20	.....
Washington and Oregon.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	37
Pennsylvania.....	6	181	.....	.....	.....	812
Pittsburgh.....	88	3,327	144	.....	3,001 08	.....
South Carolina.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
South Illinois.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Tennessee.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Texas.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Virginia.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
West Michigan.....	28	810	36	.....	498 93	73
West Virginia.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	474 56	.....
Japan Mission.....	.....	94	.....	.....	.....	.....
	595	*27,693	991	612	\$13,765 12	†1,919

*The report of the Committee on Young Peoples' Societies shows a membership of 35,000.

†The circulation of *Our Young People*, as found in the report of the Board of Publication, is about 4,000.

STATISTICS OF SUNDAY-SCHOOLS FOR 1895.

CONFERENCES.	Schools.	Officers and Teachers.	Scholars.	Our own Periodicals used.	Other Periodicals used.	Amount of money raised.
Alabama	46	198	2,016	1,407	.....	.....
“ (col.)	7	18	150	.....	.....	.....
Arkansas	57	165	2,049	173	.....	\$92 20
“ (col.) .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Baltimore (col.) .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Central Texas	7	38	354	70	.....	.....
Colorado-Texas	5	17	217	.....	.....	.....
“ (col.)	15	30	400	.....	.....	.....
Charleston (col.)	18	.....	489	.....	.....	.....
Florida	6	.....	150	5	.....	.....
Fort Smith	8	30	340	.....	.....	.....
Genessee	19	194	1,122	464	86	236 95
Georgia	25	92	1,199	.....	.....	.....
“ (col)*	26	72	668	180	.....	25 00
Indiana	107½	986	6,366	941	.....	917 96
Iowa .....	.....	613	3,652	1,198	213	.....
Indian Mission	10	50	250	.....	.....	.....
Kansas	48	360	2,498	1,512	50	893 14
Kentucky	10	44	240	500	.....	.....
Louisiana*	21	58	494	96	.....	12 00
Maryland	261½	3,489	23,837	18,522	.....	.....
Michigan	103	976	5,008	1,714	709	1,681 22
Missouri	27	257	1,387	796	.....	351 00
Mississippi	20	51	609	.....	.....	33 00
Muskingum	148	172	9,919	3,762	.....	5,070 94
Nebraska	26	203	849	350	140	157 25
New Jersey	41	663	4,491	5,531	.....	2,928 63
New York	25	411	2,671	2,075	370	1,541 00
North Carolina	193	724	9,715	2,937	.....	.....
North Illinois	51½	311	3,150	653	613	.....
North Mississippi	3	7	104	8	.....	.....
North Missouri	34	349	1,627	164	.....	446 30
Ohio	95	1,153	6,642	3,793	.....	3,077 66
Onondaga	56	555	2,186	163	52	520 93
Wash'ton and Oreg. .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Pennsylvania	23	216	1,032	266	.....	.....
Pittsburgh	89	1,174	6,656	6,568	1,123	5,161 54
South Carolina .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
South Illinois	45½	445	2,209	385	.....	641 38
Tennessee	20	120	530	.....	.....	.....
Texas	19	73	685	341	.....	.....
Virginia	26	118	1,230	.....	.....	.....
West Virginia	231	1,583	7,646	1,567	.....	1,437 62
West Michigan	55	480	2,496	1,146	70	824 53
Northwest Texas	9	25	400	.....	.....	.....
Japan Mission	17	.....	707	.....	.....	.....
St. Louis Mission	5	25	150	.....	.....	.....
*Last quadrennium, '92.	2,018½	17,567	107,490	* 67,267	3,426	\$26,080 25

*The report of the Board of Publication gives 139,840 copies of Sunday-school periodicals circulated.

2. Papers were referred to us requesting the General Conferences to constitute a mission district, to be known as the St. Louis Mission Annual Conference; other papers were filed with the committee protesting against the establishing of the said conference with the boundaries as proposed. After the most thorough examination and consideration the committee was able to give the matter, we cannot recommend the setting off of the said mission district.

3. We recommend that the boundaries of the North Mississippi and the Tennessee Conferences be so changed as to include the county of McNarry, now in the bounds of the Tennessee District, in the boundaries of the North Mississippi Conference.

4. A proposition was before us to effect certain changes in the boundaries between the Mississippi and Alabama Conference Districts. After fully considering the subject and all the interests involved therein, your committee does not think that any change at this time would be wise. We, therefore, recommend that the boundaries of these conferences remained unchanged.

5. We recommend that the boundaries of the South Georgia (Colored) Conference be changed to include the entire State of Florida.

6. That the boundaries of the Washington Conference include the whole of the State of Washington.

7. We recommend the setting off of a mission district to be known as the Oregon Mission Conference, to include the whole of the State of Oregon.

8. That our German work in the Northwest be organized into a mission conference, to be known as the Chicago German Mission Conference.

9. Proposition to make certain changes in the boundaries between the Northwest Texas Mission Conference and the Central Texas. We recommend no change.

10. A communication, with request from R. C. Brown, of the Delaware Conference (Colored). We recommend its reference to the President of the General Conference, with instructions to furnish the information desired.

11. That the boundaries of the Arkansas District be changed to include the counties of Dunklin, New Madrid and Penobscot in the State of Missouri.

12. We recommend that a mission district be set off, to be known as the Dallas (Colored) Mission Annual Conference with boundaries to include the entire Northeastern part of the State of Texas.

13. We recommend that the boundaries of the Texas Conference include that portion of the State of Texas from the Red River on the northwest line of Grayson county, thence south with the west line of Grayson and Collin counties to the southwest corner of Collin county; thence east with the south line of Collin county to the Houston and Texas Central Railroad; thence with said railroad as now appears in the Discipline.

14. That the boundaries of the Maryland District be changed to include Richmond and Lancaster counties in the State of Virginia.

15. That those charges located in the State of Pennsylvania now in the New York Conference, "until they otherwise elect," are hereby urgently requested to express themselves by vote on the question of returning to the Pennsylvania Conference. And we further recommend that the New York

SUMMARY OF COMPARISON WITH JOURNAL OF LAST CONFERENCE.

	1896.	1892.	Increase.
Ministers and Preachers.....	1,550	1,485	65
Unstationed Ministers and Preachers...	1,116	1,125	Dec. 9
Members.....	179,092	141,271	37,821
Probationers.....	4,624	4,120	504
Churches.....	2,267	2,181	86
Parsonages.....	484	405	79
Value of Church Property.....	\$4,519,357	\$3,551,359	\$967,998

Respectfully submitted,

T. H. COLHOVER,
J. L. MILLS,
D. C. COBURN,

C. O. STUBBS,
J. W. HULL.

(14.) Report of Committee on Finance.

1. Your Committee on Finance respectfully recommends that the following be added to Section 1, item 4, page 63: "The same Quarterly Conference shall elect a Treasurer, whose duty it shall be to receive all funds for pastor's support, and be required to make quarterly reports on circuits and monthly reports in stations of the financial condition of the charge." Referred to Committee of Seven on Revision.

2. We recommend that under the head of "Duties of Stewards," in item 2, page 116, the words "or willingness" be stricken out, and that the word "covenant" be substituted for the word "government" in the same item. Referred to the Committee of Seven on Revision.

3. That item 5, page 117, be amended by adding the following: "Any member who refuses or neglects to pay toward the support of the Church, as per church covenant, for a period of two years shall be suspended, unless for justifiable reasons." Referred to Committee of Seven on Revision.

4. That the bill presented by ex-Secretary J. F. Cowan, be allowed. Adopted.

A. C. FULLER, J. K. PIERCE,
J. O. LEDBETTER, C. E. CUSTIS.
W. S. CAIRNS,

(15.) Report of the Committee on Boundaries.

The Committee on Boundaries respectfully submits the following report:

1. We have carefully read and patiently heard the papers and persons brought before us regarding boundary lines of the West Michigan and Indiana Conferences, and recommend that no change be made in the boundaries of these Conferences.

First Year.—Wakefield's Theology (about one-third), Fisher's Church History (about one-third), History of the Methodist Protestant Church.

Second Year.—Wakefield's Theology (continued), Fisher's Church History (continued), Kidder's Homiletics, or Phelps's Theory and Practice of Preaching, Nicholl's Helps to the Reading of the Bible.

Third Year.—Wakefield's Theology (completed), Fisher's Church History (completed), Kidder's Homiletics, or Phelps's Theory and Practice of Preaching (completed).

We recommend that selections be made from the following list for additional reading:

Systematic Theology.—Raymond, Pope, Lee, Watson, Summers.

Old Testament Theology.—Oehler.

New Testament Theology.—Van Oosterzee, Schmidt.

Natural Theology.—Paley, Chadbourne, Diman.

Mental Science.—Porter, Hickok, Wayland, Upham, Sully.

Moral Science.—Hopkins, Calderwood, Hickok.

Homiletics.—Porter, Hoppin.

Church History.—Hase.

History of Doctrines.—Shedd.

Pastoral Theology.—Hoppin, Shedd.

5. In Discipline, to page 62, Section 3, add the following: "And shall have passed a satisfactory examination in English Grammar and Binney's Compend.

J. T. HOWELL,

U. S. FLEMING,

D. S. STEVENS,

J. M. MORRIS,

T. H. LEWIS,

ROBERT M. POLLOCK.

A. W. LINEBERRY,

(17.) Report of Special Committee Appointed to Examine the Manuscript Book of John Scott, Entitled, "The Catechism of the History, Doctrines and Polity of the M. P. Church."

1. Your committee would report that we have carefully examined the manuscript book of John Scott, referred to us by this General Conference, and would say that we regard this work as one of great importance to all Methodisms in general and to the M. P. Church in particular.

2. This work treats upon many important subjects, namely, the history, doctrines and polity of the M. P. Church, and of the Bible, the evidences of Christianity, the Church and its ordinances; the nature and sanctity of the Sabbath, and an exposition of the Constitution and Discipline of the M. P. Church.

3. The work is thoroughly evangelical, and written in the plain, easy and logical style of this eminent and venerable writer, and can, in the main, be easily comprehended and understood by ordinary Sabbath-school scholars.

4. We believe that this important book has "come to the M. P. Church for such a time as this," and we do believe that the publication and circulation of this

and Pennsylvania Conferences do not attempt to influence the vote of these churches in their individual interest.

16. We recommend the setting off of a mission district, to be known as the Oklahamo Mission Annual Conference, with boundaries to include the whole of the Oklahamo Territory.

17. We recommend the setting off of a mission district, to be known as the Chicasaw Mission Annual Conference, with boundaries to include Chicasaw Nation and that part of the Choctaw Nation lying south of the Choctaw Railroad.

18. That the boundaries of the Fort Smith Mission Conference be changed to make the National line between the State of Arkansas and the Indian Territory its western boundary.

19. That the boundaries of the Indian Mission Conference include the Cherokee, Creek and Seminole Reservations, and that part of the Choctaw Nation lying north of the Choctaw Railroad.

20. That Faribault county, in the State of Minnesota, be included in the boundaries of the Iowa Conference.

21. *Resolved*, That the boundaries of the New York Conference, as laid down in the Discipline, do not authorize that Conference to occupy any territory in the State of Pennsylvania, except those charges recognized to be retained by it by the Convention of 1877, until the members of said churches should "otherwise elect."

E. J. WILSON,
F. T. LITTLE,
S. A. FISHER,
J. S. PERRY.

Z. PATTERSON,
S. M. RANKIN,
C. WATERMAN.

(16.) Report of Committee on Course of Study.

1. In regard to the paper by J. G. Reed, South Illinois Conference, recommending that "the course of study for candidates for the ministry be the same throughout the various Conferences of the Church," the committee does not concur, except as to a minimum course.

2. Your committee recommends that the course of study for candidates for license to preach be inserted as Section 12, page 66, under Quarterly Conference.

3. That the course of study for candidates for the ministry be inserted as Section 32, page 77, under Annual Conferences.

4. That the course of study inserted as Section 32, under Annual Conference, be as follows:

EXAMINATION FOR ADMISSION INTO AN ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

No Annual Conference shall receive any person into its itinerancy until he has passed a satisfactory examination upon English Grammar, Scripture, History (Smith's), Binney's Compend, and the Discipline of the Methodist Protestant Church, or in their equivalent.

When a more advanced course of study is not provided by an Annual Conference, the following course shall be mandatory:

Resolved, That the Board of Home Missions shall have authority to vacate the pulpit of any church that is being assisted by the Board when, in the judgment of the Board, the security of the property or happiness of the congregation is disturbed; provided, that this shall not be construed as applying to pastorates filled by Annual Conference action at the regular annual meeting.

9. We recommend that the following Article be added to the Constitution of the Board of Home Missions:

Article 7. The Board shall have power to fill all vacancies occasioned by death, resignation or removal.

10. We recommend a reconsideration of item 7, and that the name of H. G. Reeves be substituted for the name of Nathan Jones.

Respectfully submitted,

J. F. HINKLE,	R. E. FOX,
J. D. KINZER,	O. F. WARNER,
J. J. BARGE,	A. M. PIERCE.
M. M. EVERLY,	

EXHIBIT A.

PITTSBURGH, PA., May 1, 1896.

REPORT OF TREASURER OF BOARD OF HOME MISSIONS FOR FOUR YEARS ENDING APRIL 30, 1896.

RECEIPTS.

From all Sources, 1893.....	\$7,371 06	
1894.....	6,993 10	
1895.....	5,677 83	
1896.....	6,200 26	
Borrowed Money, 1896.....	4,650 00	
	<hr/>	\$26,242 25

DISBURSEMENTS.

Paid to Missionaries:

1893 And balance due on 1892.....	\$ 4,762 69
1894	3,093 33
1895 ..	3,215 90
1896	2,872 72
	<hr/>
	\$13,944 62

Paid to Corresponding Secretary, B. Stout:

1893 And balance due on 1892.....	\$1,200 00
1894	1,100 00
1895	1,100 00
1896	916 60
	<hr/>
	\$4,316 60

work would be productive of much good by imparting information in reference to the history, doctrines and polity of our beloved Church. We would, therefore, most earnestly recommend the publication of this proposed book, written by our beloved and venerated Dr. Scott.

T. H. COLHOUER,
J. F. McCULLOCH,
J. W. HULL.

(18.) Report of Committee on Home Missions.

Your Committee on Home Missions would report as follows:

1. We recognize the work of Home Missions as one of the most vital interests of the Church. To reach out and occupy new territory is not only a high privilege of the Church, but we regard it as an imperative duty. So far as we have gone in this important work, the results have been most gratifying. The business has been managed in a careful way, so far as we can learn. The report of the Treasurer and Secretary of the Board has been before us, and was carefully considered. In the absence of vouchers we could not audit the accounts, but as they have previously been audited by the Board, we do not doubt their veracity. They are herewith appended, marked A and B.

2. In obedience to the action of the Conference the committee has revised the constitution of the Board, and herewith present the constitution as revised, marked C.

3. Your committee have had under consideration a memorial and constitution of the Woman's Home Missionary Society, which was organized in compliance with the action of the General Conference of 1892, and we recommend that they be recognized and their prayer granted.

4. We have considered a communication from Seattle, Washington, requesting a visit from some member of the Board, at an early date, which we refer to the judgment of the Board; also, a communication from a party in St. Louis, Mo., with a like request, which we also refer to the Board for consideration.

5. Your committee has also had under advisement the propriety of taking up Home Mission work among the German-speaking people of the United States, and believe there is a hopeful field among the Germans. We would recommend that the Board take the matter under advisement.

6. Believing that the location of new church enterprises to be a matter of vital importance, we would recommend where new fields are to be entered, that the Board appoint a committee in each case, who shall consider the site and environments, and report to the Board before any money is appropriated.

7. We recommend for election as members of the Board the following persons: Ministers, W. M. Strayer, S. A. Fisher, S. Heininger, J. T. Howell. Laymen, J. N. Pierpont, Fletcher Chambers and Nathan Jones.

8. We recommend the adoption of the following resolution presented by W. M. Strayer, F. T. Tagg, M. L. Smith:

1896 Dover Church, Del..... ..	\$500 00	
Peoples' Church, Kansas City:		
1895 Interest on loan..... ..	\$182 00	
1895 On account of note..... ..	250 00	
1896 Interest on loan..... ..	35 50	
1896 Building..... ..	4,150 00	
	<hr/> \$4,617 50	\$7,135 32
Dr. Stephens, Trustee of Funded Debt. Amount paid to him in trust to provide for liquidating indebtedness incurred to pay Peoples' Church appropriation.....	\$450 00	
Trinity Church, Brooklyn, loan..... ..	\$925 00	\$925 00
Trinity Church, Brooklyn, special collec- tion..... ..	\$ 8 60	\$30,764 77
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Balance on hand..... ..		\$127 48

INDEBTEDNESS OF THE BOARD.

Warrants in hands of Treasurer for March and April. Salaries of all the Mission- aries and Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer and Secretary, unpaid	\$ 904 39	
Warrant in favor of Spencer Church, W. Va., unpaid..... ..	250 00	
Warrant for expense of Easter service....	304 36	
	<hr/>	
Total, for which warrants have been issued	\$1,458 75	
Less cash on hand May 1st..... ..	127 48	
	<hr/>	
Amount for which warrants have been issued and unprovided for..... ..		\$1,331 27
Notes outstanding for money borrowed to pay on appropriation to Peoples' Church, Kansas City..... ..	\$4,150 00	
Notes outstanding of loan on Trinity Church, Brooklyn..... ..	500 00	4 650 00
	<hr/>	<hr/>
		\$5,981 27

ASSETS OF THE BOARD.

Norway Church, Ind., loan, dated April 21, 1891, at 8 per cent. Secured by first mortgage..... ..	\$225 00	
Interest due on same..... ..	95 00	
	<hr/> \$320 00	

Paid to Treasurer, N. Jones:

1893	\$ 50 00	
1894	300 00	
1895	300 00	
1896	250 00	
	<hr/>	\$900 00

Corresponding Secretary, B. Stout, Travel-
ing Expenses:

1893	\$401 93	
1894	346 37	
1895	285 54	
1896	318 26	
	<hr/>	\$1,352 10

General Expense Account. This includes
supplies for Corresponding Secretary,
Treasurer and Secretary. Expense of
Board meetings and Executive Com-
mittee meetings. Discounts on moneys
borrowed from banks, etc.:

1893	\$371 55	
1894	138 52	
1895	280 11	
1896	209 66	
	<hr/>	\$1,049 84

Easter Service Expense:

1893	\$103 02	
1894	296 76	
1895	282 91	
	<hr/>	\$682 69

Paid out on account of Permanent Stewart
Avenue Church, Kansas City:

Nov. 2, '92, special collection.....	\$ 72 86	
“ 2, '92, Widney Building, F.....	98 06	
Jan. 19, '93, on note.....	300 00	
April 28, '94, on note.....	576 22	
Oct. 24, '95, interest on notes.....	201 11	
Nov. 22, interest and insurance.....	63 97	
Total to Stewart Avenue Church.....	<hr/>	\$1,312 22
1894 Moorestown, N. J.....		\$100 00
1894 Elkins, W. Va.....		15 60
1894 Hoyt, I. T		50 00
1895 Spencer, W. Va.....		250 00
1895 King Willow, Texas.....		90 00
1895 Eaton Rapids, Mich.....	100 00	
1895 Eaton Rapids, Mich.....	100 00	
	<hr/>	\$200 00

This society held its first annual meeting at Adrian, Mich., in May, 1894, when the Constitution and By-Laws were adopted, a copy of which we append for your consideration.

The second annual meeting was held at Baltimore, Md.

We now pray your honorable body that the Woman's Home Missionary Society be given the same relation to the General Conference as that now held by the W. F. M. S.

Very respectfully,

MRS. D. C. THOMAS, *President*.

MRS. W. N. SWIFT, *Cor. Secretary*.

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL EXECUTIVE BOARD.

President.—Mrs. D. C. Thomas, Adrian, Mich.

Vice-President-at-Large.—Miss S. A. Lipscomb, Washington, D. C.

Recording Secretary.—Mrs. M. A. Colhouer, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Corresponding Secretary.—Mrs. W. N. Swift, Adrian, Mich.

Treasurer.—Mrs. J. S. Duffield, Glassboro, N. J.

Auditor.—Mrs. J. D. Coxson, Moorestown, N. J.

Executive Committee.—Mrs. D. C. Thomas, *Chairman*; Mrs. M. A. Miller, Mrs. W. N. Swift, Mrs. E. P. Crittenden, Mrs. W. H. Carrier, Mrs. A. L. Reynolds, Mrs. J. S. Thrapp, Mrs. J. S. Duffield, Miss E. P. Hazlett, Mrs. Sophia Hottenstein, Mrs. O. V. W. Chandler, Mrs. E. F. St. John, Mrs. D. S. Cramer.

CONSTITUTION OF THE WOMAN'S HOME MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF THE M. P. CHURCH.

ARTICLE I. *Name*.—This organization shall be known as the "Woman's Home Missionary Society of the Methodist Protestant Church."

ART. II. *Objects*.—The objects of this society shall be to enlist the women and children who are connected with our congregations throughout the United States in organized efforts in behalf of those who are destitute of Gospel privileges. The society may co-operate with other agencies of our Church in educational and home missionary work.

ART. III. *Membership*.—The payment of one dollar annually shall constitute membership; the payment of ten dollars at one time, life membership, and fifty dollars an honorary manager for life. Gentlemen shall be entitled to honorary membership by the payment of one dollar annually.

ART. IV. *Organization*.—This organization shall consist of a general Executive Board, Conference Societies and Auxiliary Societies, as heretofore provided; also an Executive Committee of thirteen persons, who shall be appointed by the General Conference.

ART. V. *General Executive Board*.—The General Executive Board, to which shall be entrusted the general management of affairs, shall consist of a Presi-

Two lots in Elkins, W. Va., June 8, 1891, for \$98.64. Deeded to the Board, con- sidered worth.....	\$200 00
Grafton Church, W. Va., loan, May 8, 1889, at 1 per cent. interest.....	\$400 00
Interest on same.....	28 00
	<hr/> \$428 00

Have no security for this.

Stewart Avenue Church, Kansas City:

This property, deeded in fee simple to the Board, and is worth \$4,000.00. Debt on same \$1,400.00. Net value.....	\$2,600 00
Trinity Church, Brooklyn, N. Y., loan....	\$925 00
Interest on same.....	55 00
	<hr/> \$980 00

Total \$4,528 00

NATHAN JONES,
Treasurer.

EXHIBIT B.

1. Amend Article I of the Constitution of the Board so as to read "to consist of seven members" (instead of nine). Four Ministers and Three Laymen.

2. Substitute Article II, as follows: "The General Conference shall in like manner elect a Corresponding Secretary who shall also be Treasurer and ex-officio member of the Board, whose duty it shall be to act under the direction of the Board, conduct the correspondence, visit the Annual Conferences, churches and mission fields, receive all moneys, report quarterly to the Board regarding the work, and at the end of each quadrennium make to the General Conference a detailed and descriptive report of the mission field, and all other matters connected with the work, and perform such other duties as pertain to the office.

3. Strike out from Article III, the word "Treasurer" in the third and fourth line from the bottom of the Article.

4. Insert between the second and third line from the bottom of Article III, "The Treasurer shall give bond at the expense of the Board in a sum not less than \$5,000.00."

5. Add to Article IV, "with vouchers attached."

EXHIBIT C.

Woman's Memorial.

To the General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church, convened in Kansas City, Kansas, May, 1896:

In compliance with the recommendation of the Committee on Home Missions of the General Conference of 1892, the women of the church organized a Home Missionary Society at Bridgeton, New Jersey, in May, 1893.

members of the Michigan Conference Society. It shall meet quarterly or oftener, and three shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

ART. X. *Funds*.—The funds of the Society shall not be raised by public collections, nor subscriptions taken during any regular church service, nor in Sunday-schools, but shall be raised by securing members, life-members, honorary members, by collections and subscriptions taken in audiences convened in the interests of the Society, by pledges from the Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor, and from Junior Christian Endeavor Societies and by other approved methods deemed desirable. The amounts so collected shall be reported to the Annual Conference through the pastor in charge in order that they may be entered with other collections and be published in the Annual and General Minutes.

ART. XI. *Relation to the Board of Home Missions*.—This Society shall act in harmony with (and under the advisory supervision of) the Board of Home Missions of the Methodist Protestant Church, reserving the right of controlling its own funds.

ART. XII. *Amendments to the Constitution*.—This Constitution may be altered or amended by a vote of two-thirds of the members present at any annual meeting. *Provided*, that all proposals for amendment or alteration be submitted by the Executive Committee; and *further provided*, that any amendment made imperative by action of the General Conference may be acted upon at the meeting next succeeding the General Conference.

BY-LAWS OF THE WOMAN'S HOME MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

1. The General Executive Board of the Society shall meet annually, in connection with the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society.

2. The Executive Committee of the Board shall confer with the Corresponding Secretary of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society and shall prepare a program of exercises and an order of business for the annual meeting. They shall see that the time and place of meeting are announced in the Church papers and in the *Woman's Missionary Record*.

3. All officers of the Society shall be elected by ballot annually.

4. The By-Laws may be amended at any annual meeting by a two-thirds vote.

The order of business shall be the same as has been adopted by the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society.

(19) Report of the Committee on Adjusting the Differences Between the New York and Pennsylvania Conferences.

The Committee on adjusting the differences between the New York and Pennsylvania Conferences, makes the following report, which shall be final:

Resolved, That the General Conference has no further jurisdiction in the matter, but we recommend that these Conferences reach a satisfactory solution

dent, Vice-President-at-large, Corresponding Secretary, Recording Secretary and Treasurer, and the President and Corresponding Secretary of each Conference Society, or their alternates. The officers shall be elected annually and shall serve until their successors are elected. Five shall constitute a quorum. The Executive Committee hereafter named shall have power to fill any vacancies occurring in its own body in the interim of the General Conference, and shall transact all business committed to it by the Society, subject to revision at the annual meeting.

ART. VI. *Duties of the General Executive Board.*—It shall be the duty of the General Executive Board to consider the entire work of the Society, designate fields of labor, estimate the needs of each, determine the amounts to be raised, devise means to forward the work of the Society, appropriate its receipts in accordance with the purposes herein indicated, arrange with the Conference Society the secretary's work to be undertaken by each conference, and until such time as conference organizations are complete, appoint suitable persons as corresponding secretaries of the several conferences, and to transact any business that the interest of the Society may demand; *Provided*, that all plans and directions shall be in harmony with this Constitution.

ART. VII. *Branches.*—The women of each conference who organize under this Constitution, with By-Laws not conflicting, shall be recognized as a Conference Society. The officers of each Conference Society shall be a President, Vice-President, Recording and Corresponding Secretaries, Treasurer, and five or more Managers, who, with two representatives from each auxiliary, shall constitute an Executive Board for the administration of the affairs of the Conference Branch. Three shall constitute a quorum. The officers shall be elected annually, and continue in office until their successors are elected. The Recording Secretary shall take minutes of the sessions and give notice of all meetings. The Corresponding Secretary, shall, under the direction of the Executive Board, attend the session of the annual conference, shall endeavor to interest pastors and ladies in the work of the Society, organize auxiliary societies in the various charges in the conference, conduct the correspondence of the Society, and present an annual report to the Executive Board of the Conference Society. The Treasurer shall keep a regular account of receipts and disbursements, give quarterly and annual reports to the Executive Committee, and only disburse the funds by direction of the committee, signed and countersigned by the President and Secretary. Each Conference Society shall be required to pay into the contingent fund of the General Executive Board fifteen cents per member annually.

ART. VIII. *Auxiliaries.*—Auxiliary Societies may be formed by any number of women who shall adopt rules of government in harmony with this Constitution. Each auxiliary shall contribute to its Conference Society ten dollars or more a year, and each member one dollar a year.

ART. IX. *Executive Committee.*—The Executive Committee of the Society shall consist of thirteen members, who shall be elected by the General Conference at each of its quadrennial sessions. The committee shall have its headquarters at Adrian, Michigan, and not less than five of its members shall be

Head of the Church, to whose inscrutable will we humbly bow, shed upon the family of our departed Brother His richest benediction.

11. We commend the very comprehensive report of the Board of Foreign Missions, published in pamphlet form, and urge its careful study by the Church at large.

W. A. BUNCH,
S. B. TREDWAY,
M. L. SMITH,
J. T. DOZIER,
J. G. REED,

C. A. BENJAMIN,
J. M. HADLEY,
J. F. BURDINE,
H. M. LYON,
A. J. GRAY.

*Summary of Receipts and Disbursements of the Board of Foreign Missions,
Methodist Protestant Church for the Quadrennium May 1, 1892, April
30, 1896.*

	RECEIPTS.				
	1892-3.	1893-4.	1894-5.	1895-6.	Total.
General Fund Assessments.....	\$6,707 80	\$5,918 66	\$5,679 08	\$6,541 17	\$24,846 71
Children's Day.....	5,429 38	6,702 68	5,057 82	4,022 39	21,212 27
Permanent Fund, Notes Paid.....	200 00			100 00	300 00
Album Fund.....	27 50	2 60			30 10
Hirata Home.....	124 00				124 00
Busy Workers' Cards.....	240 27	41 50			281 77
Y. P. S. C. E. General Fund.....	124 23		389 55	236 63	750 41
Y. P. S. C. E. Chapel-Nagoya.....	92 67	420 95			513 62
Y. P. S. C. E. Kitagata S. S. Building.....	8 54	157 10	45 00		210 64
Interest on Invested Funds	141 00	171 75	142 25	148 65	603 65
Collection at General Conference.....	21 12				21 12
Cash advanced at Gen'l Conf. by F.T. Tagg.	20 00				20 00
L. L. Albright, draft returned from Japan.	500 00				500 00
Life Membership in Pittsburgh Conf.....	30 00				30 00
Nagoya Chapel.....	12 00	675 67	622 47	24 50	1,334 64
Bulletin Subscriptions and Advertis'm'ts..	243 70	282 80			526 50
Shizuoka Chapel.....		288 62			288 62
Birthday Offerings.....		6 52			6 52
Remittance to T. E. Coulbourn returned..		500 00			500 00
M. L. Shields for Japan Student (Toyooka).		50 00			50 00
Bequest, Ann Stephenson.....			180 00		180 00
Bequest, Elizabeth Cosby.....			88 89		88 89
Education of Japan Students.....			160 00	142 75	302 75
Ministerial Education in Japan				10 00	10 00
Costs of Protest of F. H. M. H.'s check.....				3 00	3 00
Opening Mission in China.....				151 35	151 35
Lehigh Valley R. R.....				4 23	4 23
	\$13,922 21	\$14,588 85	\$12,365 06	\$11,384 67	\$52,260 79

of their difficulty by arbitration, each Conference to select a man, and they a third party, who shall decide, and this decision shall be final.

W. M. STRAYER,
R. S. MCGARITY,
M. L. BAKER,

H. M. MYERS,
M. YINGLING.

(20) Report of the Committee on Foreign Missions.

Your Committee on Foreign Missions reports as follows:

1. We recommend for members of the Board of Foreign Missions the following: T. B. Graham, G. B. McElroy, W. L. Wells, T. H. Lewis, F. T. Tagg, C. J. Yingling, U. S. Fleming, H. J. Heinz, F. F. Brierly.

2. The paper referred to us, entitled, "Two Years in Japan," by U. G. Murphy, is respectfully referred to the Board of Foreign Missions.

3. In reference to the proposed union of Methodism in Japan, we commend the Board for their intelligent action, and recommend that they act with great caution in the future.

4. We recognize the method of raising funds by "Children's Day Service" to be of great importance; first, as a successful way of collecting money; second, as a means of educating the children and developing a missionary zeal. We, therefore, recommend that the Annual Conferences require their pastors to hold "Children's Day" services at each appointment as directed by the Board of Foreign Missions.

5. We acknowledge our high appreciation of the generous and beneficent bequests to the Board by Sister Ann Stephenson, late of Harford county, Md., and Brother E. J. Hill, late of Washington, D. C.

6. We have had before us the printed minutes of the fourth session of the Japan Mission Annual Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church, and we highly commend it for the efficiency of its work, and devoutly pray that the Great Head of the Church may continue to grant it increasing prosperity.

7. Obedient to the order of this Conference, we amend Article 2 of the Constitution of the Board of Foreign Missions by inserting immediately after the word ex-officio, "Who shall be Treasurer of the Board, and that he be required to bond in the sum of not less than \$5,000; also, amend Article 5 by expunging all reference made therein to Treasurer."

8. We present the accompanying financial report of the Treasurer of the Board of Foreign Missions, and make it a part of our report.

9. We also have the efficient and creditable quadrennial report of the Board of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, which we incorporate as a part of our report.

10. We would not close our report without holding in loving remembrance the name of our late beloved Corresponding Secretary, Thomas E. Coulbourn, the honor of whose memory is in all the Churches. May the Great

INVESTED FUNDS.

C. H. & H. L. Williams, Mortgage	\$2,000 00—6 per cent.
J. Warner, Mortuary Note.....	300 00—1 “ “
S. S. Teeters, Guaranteed Note.....	225 00—7 “ “
W. L. Wells, Note.....	50 00—7 “ “
E. G. Painter, Note.....	100 00—6 “ “
Board of Home Missions	500 00
	<hr/>
	\$3,175 00

SPECIAL FUNDS.

Y. P. S. C. E. Nagoya Chapel.....	\$250 93
Education of Japanese Students.....	152 75
Opening Mission in China.....	151 35
Kitagata S. S. Building	45 00
	<hr/>
	\$600 03

Respectfully submitted,

G. B. McELROY, *Treasurer.*

Adrian, Mich., April 30, 1896.

*Mr. President and Members of the General Conference
of the Methodist Protestant Church:*

DEAR BRETHREN, GREETING:

We, the members of the Board of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, in rendering to you this report of the work committed into our hands for the past four years, do so in humility for the feebleness of our efforts. Our endeavor has been as hearty and our zeal as earnest, but it is very apparent that our progress in extension of the work has been slow.

At Yokohama, Japan, our school numbers fifty pupils, with two missionaries. The property valuation is \$10,000, clear of any encumbrance.

At Nagoya we have one Mission, with four native Bible reader assistants. We are engaged in evangelistic work mainly at this point, with the expectation of opening a Kindergarten school. The call has come to us from our workers to build a home in this city, which we contemplate doing, as our building fund amounts at the present time to \$1,737.30. The permanent fund from legacies in bank, at interest, amounts to \$2,003 80. For the four years intervening between the meeting of this body our gleanings from various sources amount to \$17,822.34.

Our work, while modest, we trust you will find efficient. The condition of our foreign interests are good, and we hold in high appreciation the ladies employed in that field. They are deeply spiritual, and their work is for the spread of the Gospel and Christian civilization, for which we believe they have been divinely called. They have given to the extent of their ability influences for the building up in constructive work of the Japan Mission Conference.

	DISBURSEMENTS.				
	1892-3.	1893-4.	1894-5.	1895-6.	Total.
SALARIES.					
F. C. Klein	\$1,009 12				\$1,009 12
E. H. Van Dyke	1,040 53	\$992 81	\$1,000 00	\$859 48	3,892 82
A. R. Morgan	1,156 70	998 22	1,000 00	750 00	3,904 92
L. L. Albright	84 00				84 00
I. F. Smith		866 67	800 00	600 00	2,266 67
U. G. Murphy		866 67	800 00	650 35	2,317 02
Mrs. Kojima		300 00	180 00	90 00	570 00
Leigh Layman				660 33	660 33
J. P. Richardson				670 73	670 73
F. T. Tagg, Cor. Sec	200 00				200 00
T. E. Coulbourn, Cor. Sec	1,033 00	1,200 00	1,200 00	1,110 97	4,543 97
G. B. McElroy, Treas	50 00	75 00	100 00	100 00	325 00
W. L. Wells, Rec. Sec	10 00	10 00	10 00	10 00	40 00
TRAVELING EXPENSES.					
Annual Meeting	142 92	52 50	150 68	135 55	481 65
Executive Committee Meetings	184 12	128 70	125 60	110 38	548 80
Corresponding Secretary	337 51	460 15	410 57	428 36	1,636 59
T. H. Lewis to N. C. Conference	30 00				30 00
Treasurer Conference	5 00	6 35			11 35
A. R. Morgan		35 03			35 03
Missionaries to Japan		1,426 29		859 51	2,285 80
T. H. Lewis and F. T. Tagg, Funeral of T. E. Coulbourn				26 11	26 11
F. T. Tagg to Lynchburg, Va				12 45	12 45
Postage and Stationery	279 71	310 58	222 63	261 07	1,073 99
Freight and Expressage	47 06	33 42	19 77	80 13	180 38
Evangelistic and Mission Expenses	2,325 04	3,154 68	1,682 40	1,899 14	9,061 26
Printing and Publishing	736 18	791 02	525 11	435 75	2,488 06
Cablegrams and Telegrams	20 56			3 92	24 48
Telegrams to L. L. Albright	17 04	2 79			19 83
Miss Whetstone, borrowed by L. L. Albright	288 00				288 00
L. L. Albright, return Expenses	800 00				800 00
T. H. Colhouer, Bal. on Return Expenses	37 65				37 65
F. T. Tagg, Cash Refunded	20 00				20 00
F. T. Tagg, Balance on Bulletin Expenses	166 29				166 29
Permanent Fund Invested	325 00			700 00	1,025 00
Lafayette Cottage	61 00				61 00
Kitagata S. S. Bulding	10 75		165 64		176 39
Nagoya Deficiency Debt	799 40				799 40
Nagoya Boarding Hall	444 00				444 00
Nagoya College	1,200 00	1,200 00	1,200 00	900 00	4,500 00
Nagoya Chapel, Y. P. S. C. E	20 00		1,259 13	1,500 00	2,779 13
Taxes, Ground Rent and Insurance	226 50				226 50
Collection Cards and Circulars	7 85	2 42			7 85
Discount	2 15	0 70	8 96	2 55	16 08
Miscellaneous Expenses	122 77	14 50	59 12	64 73	387 32
Kuboki San Appropriation		7 50	50 00		125 00
Refunded to Nagoya Chapel Fund, Am't Paid Mrs. Kojima		150 00			150 00
Nagoya Old Debt		27 75			27 75
Nagoya, Repairs on Chapel		200 00			200 00
Shizuoka Chapel		300 00	150 00		450 00
F. C. Klein, Balance on Return Expenses		31 74			31 74
F. C. Klein, Donation		300 00			300 00
Education of Japan Students			200 00	10 00	210 00
Hirata Home			63 00		63 00
Salary allowed E. H. Van Dyke			32 45		32 45
Recorders and Methodist Protestants to Bulletin Subscribers			58 16		58 16
Bulletin Subscriptions Returned			10 05		10 05
Special Meeting of the Board, Mar., 1896				77 50	77 50
Trav. Expens. of Rec. Sec. to Adrian, Mich.				11 85	11 85
Cost of Protest on Check of F. H. M. H				3 00	3 00
Amount retained by Cor. Sec. A. D. Melvin				603 06	603 06
	\$3,238 05	\$14,139 49	\$11,487 27	\$13,625 92	\$52,490 73

and the heart of the faithful sower was gladdened by speedy signs of a splendid harvest. To give point to their objections, those who resisted his doctrine, declared that he and his associates "had turned the world upside down." And it would seem that the charge was not entirely without foundation. For right here in the midst of this heathen city, within the space of a few weeks, perhaps not more than three, there was produced such a revolution in religious beliefs and sentiments that "of the devout Greeks a great multitude, and of the chief women not a few, turned to God from their idols to serve the living and true God." Besides, this large company of believers, freshly plucked from the deep pit of heathenism, became a centre of light for the diffusion of light into all the regions round about. Commending the zealous, evangelistic spirit, the apostle afterwards wrote: "From you sounded out the word of the Lord (as from a trumpet), not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but also in every place your faith to God-ward is spread abroad."

But Thessalonica was not an exception in this respect. It appears to have been the policy of the apostle to visit the chief centres of population, in rapid succession, gather out such as would receive the gospel in honest hearts, and make them centres of life to arrest the awful work of death around them. In this way Antioch, the great emporium of Oriental trade; Ephesus, the great storm-center of heathenism and of the worship of Diana; Athens, famed for its philosophy and false religions; Corinth, one of the chief seats of ancient culture and art; and many other towns and cities in Europe and Asia Minor, were entered one after the other, and the standard of the cross raised in their midst; and with those whom he could persuade to enlist under it, link after link was added to a gradually lengthening chain of evangelizing centres, extending along the coast of the Mediterranean, far back into the interior of Asia, on both sides of the *Ægean* sea, and even as far as Rome itself—centres of light and power to dispense their quota of blessing for the salvation of men everywhere. And thus moved, directed, enforced and sustained by the Spirit of God, this tireless missionary literally evangelized the whole known world of his day, completing, during a ministry shorter than that of some whom I address to-day, a task which the whole Christian Church has been commanded, and is still under the most solemn obligation, to perform.

What was the secret of the untiring activity, patient endurance and unparalleled success of this wonderful man of God?—this man whom neither the rage of men nor the wrath of demons could daunt, whose unquenchable zeal in the cause of his Master either swept aside or overleaped all sorts of obstacles; to whom persecutions, imprisonments, tortures, perils by land and perils by sea seemed to count as mere trifles when set over against his convictions of duty to his Lord and his fellow-man. That he was impelled by no unworthy motive, no sordid craving for personal gain, no vulgar ambition for honor or fame, admits of not the least doubt. His lofty spirit rose as high above such hallow enchantments as the stars move in quiet splendor beyond the transient glory of morning clouds. In this same Epistle to the Thessalonians, he could write: "For neither at any time used we flattering words as ye know, nor a cloak of covetousness, God is witness; nor of men sought we glory, neither of you, nor

Our interests in the home field of our work are not as encouraging as we desire. This body has given to us the privilege to expect the co-operation of its ministry, but we are sometimes embarrassed with its absence. Of the thirty-seven Conferences constituting this body our work is actively organized in but fourteen.

We are aware of the growth and prosperity of the Church, and we desire to keep pace with her in the advancement, and we ask from its ministry and laity open doors and heart-felt co-operation.

We recommend the following persons as the Executive Committee.

Mrs. F. A. Brown, Mrs. M. A. Miller, Mrs. D. S. Stephens, Mrs. J. D. Anderson, Mrs. J. E. Palmer, Mrs. W. K. Gillespie, Mrs. M. A. Colhouer, Mrs. J. J. Murray, Miss S. A. Lipscomb, Mrs. N. R. Seeman, Mrs. M. J. McCaslin, Mrs. A. J. Dotson, Miss Mary Moale.

With prayer to the Father of us all for His tender mercy and loving kindness towards us, we shall work on under the shadow of His wing.

Respectfully submitted,

MRS. W. W. BAYNES,
MRS. F. A. BROWN,
MRS. D. S. STEPHENS.

NOTE.—T. E. Coulbourn, the then Corresponding Secretary of the Board of Foreign Missions and member of the Maryland Conference, was appointed by the President of that Conference to preach the Conference Sermon on Foreign Missions, at the session in April, 1896. He accepted the appointment and prepared the sermon as here printed. Before the time came for him to preach it, while returning from his official visit to the Pennsylvania Conference, he was taken ill and died in the parsonage of our church in Pittston, Pa., March 11, 1896, within a few weeks of the meeting of his Conference. Before his death he requested that his sermon be read at the Conference. This was done by T. H. Lewis, who was assigned this touching duty by President J. D. Kinzer, of the Maryland Conference. *Committee.*

CONFERENCE SERMON ON FOREIGN MISSIONS.

PREPARED BY REV. T. E. COULBOURN (DECEASED).

(READ BY REV. T. H. LEWIS, D.D.)

“For our exhortation was not of deceit, nor of uncleanness, nor in guile; but as we were allowed of God to be put in trust with the gospel, even so we speak; not as pleasing men, but God, which trieth our hearts.”—I. THESSALONIANS, II. 3, 4.

The visit of St. Paul to Thessalonica, though unusually brief and stormy, was exceptionally fruitful. Jewish prejudice here, as elsewhere, was easily aroused, and his bold announcement that Jesus whom he preached was indeed the Christ, was sufficient to provoke a perfect tempest of opposition from those “who believed not.” Nevertheless, the seed sown found much friendly soil,

with the apostle just after Pentecost: "We cannot but speak the things which we have heard and seen concerning Jesus."

1. The purposes of God concerning the administration of the sacred trust he has committed to us, are definitely and explicitly stated in his Word, and uttered with an emphasis of reiteration that leaves no room for doubt or excuse. Turning to the twelfth chapter of Genesis, we read that He said to Abraham: "In thee shall all the families of the earth be blessed." Referring to this promise, Paul declares in Galatians iii, 8: "The Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the heathen through faith, preached before the gospel unto Abraham, saying: 'In thee shall all nations be blessed;'" and adds further on in the same chapter: "That the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith." Thus the Gospel of Christ, even as proclaimed in the Old Testament, was not for any one age or for any one race. In the Councils of Eternity it was said to the World's Messiah: "It is a light thing that thou shouldst be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob, and to restore the preserved of Israel; I will also give thee for a light to the Gentiles, that thou mayest be my salvation unto the end of the earth."

Besides, we have the clear and explicit command of our Lord himself, uttered in terms which perfectly harmonize with the Divine decrees of previous dispensations. A thoughtful study of the New Testament reveals the fact that his great commission was given, not once nor twice, as some seem to think, but on at least four different occasions, and in as many different forms. First, to His chosen band in the mountains of Gallilee He gave the comprehensive command: "Go teach all nations." Secondly, on the Mount of Olives, just before the cloud rolled between His ascending form and the uplifted gaze of the awe stricken multitude, He set before His Church her duty to be his witness, not only at home and in the regions round about, but unto the uttermost parts of the earth; and that her work in the nearer, the more distant and the most distant fields, must be undertaken all together. Thirdly, on the road to Damascus He gave a command which revealed not only to Paul but to the whole Church, that her mission is to the Gentiles as well as to the Jews, and that she is to make Christ known to all men alike, as the only name under heaven whereby they may be delivered from the power of Satan unto God. Fourthly, His call came to Paul in a vision of the night, when, it is said, "not a real Macedonian, but the risen Christ Himself summoned his apostle to wider sphere among the world conquering races of Pagan Europe." And so the promise of salvation through faith only, proclaimed *for* all the families of the earth in God's covenant with Abraham, and repeated under various forms by prophet, priest and seer, is to be carried *into* all nations, in the gospel of His Son, which gospel He has committed to His Church, to be preached by faithful witnesses to "every creature" in every land.

The mission of the Church, therefore, is unmistakable; and if she is obedient to her marching orders and honors her Lord as she should, she will not be content to limit her beneficent activities to any one race, or clime, or country. She is under orders to make Christ known to the benighted and lost everywhere

yet of others, when we might," as the Revised Version gives it, "have claimed honor as the apostles of Christ."

The motive which spurred him forward in his noble work sprung from something infinitely better than anything the world could offer. He was charged with the administration of an all-important trust, bound by a solemn covenant to carry out the purposes of his loving Lord, as expressed in his Holy Word. "As we were allowed of God to be put in trust with the gospel; even so we speak." Intrusted by his Master with the gospel for humanity, called and commissioned by the King of kings to make known the riches of his grace to a lost world—this it was that set his soul aflame with a quenchless passion for perishing sinners, and transmuted suffering and sacrifice into joyful service. Having a personal interest in the gospel, in virtue of its having satisfied the deep longings of his own soul, he was firmly persuaded it would just as fully answer the needs of others; and so, in the strength of God and as the ambassador of Christ, he deliberately set himself to proclaim it throughout the world.

In this conception of the gospel as a trust, a priceless treasure committed to our charge by Almighty God for the benefit of others, lies perhaps its strongest claim to our earnest and faithful service. Having received its light and life and power, so freely bestowed, to cover our own needs, God has entrusted it to us to be as freely disseminated as we have received it. It is not ours to treat as our property. Property is something to which its owner has an unrestricted right. He may use or dispose of it whenever he pleases. The rights of a trustee are restricted. He is bound to administer his trust in accordance with the instructions contained in the conveyance. The gospel is no more our property to use or dispose of as our capricious tastes may incline us than the money we deposit in bank is the property of the bank. As the bank holds our money simply as a trust, to be applied as we direct, so God has put us in trust with the gospel, for the uses to which he has appointed us.

Our supreme concern, therefore, should be to discover as clearly as possible the eternal purpose of God concerning the administration of his Word, and then to faithfully discharge our trust in the light of the knowledge which our search reveals. This is of the most vital importance, both with respect to its bearing upon our personal character and our efficiency as "stewards of the manifold grace of God." The clearer our understanding and the nearer perfect our fulfillment of the will of God in this matter, the more certain will we be to find the key which exactly fits the lock of our high calling as ministers and witnesses of our Lord Jesus, and which will admit us into the honor and blessedness of the most exalted service known to mankind. As we really come under the quickening power of the Gospel, and its life lays hold of and glorifies our lives, we shall find the channels opened for its reception growing wider and deeper for its distribution, and, instead of the inexorable claims of duty perpetually tugging at our consciences, we shall find ourselves under the blessed constraint of a Divine impulse, prompting us more and more to say

with the most disastrous consequences to both pastor and flock. The reflex effect thereof is sure to be a steady weakening of their grip on God and a gradual decline in spiritual life and power. Hence, as Dr. A. C. Thomson says: "The church that is not missionary in its spirit must repent or wane; the pastor who is not should reform or resign."

2. The apostate condition of the non-Christian peoples of the earth renders the fulfillment of our trust imperatively necessary to their enlightenment and salvation. It is unnecessary that I should attempt to set before you the degradation and wretchedness of these nations. Suffice to say that, according to the opinions of competent judges, the heathenism of to-day is not a whit better than the heathenism of the time of Paul. For all practical purposes, the revolting picture he has given of it in that wonderful first chapter of his Epistle to the Romans, has never been equalled. But there is one fact emphasized in this description of which we need to be constantly reminded. It is the fact summed up and expressed in those pregnant words, "without God." These two words go to the very root of heathenism. They lay bare the very core of all that makes heathenism what it is. Three distinct times, and with reiterated emphasis, the apostle sets forth this fact in this chapter in such explicit language as this: "Wherefore God gave them up," "For this cause God gave them up," "And as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over." Gave them over to what, and for what reason? Gave them up to that which they preferred instead of God—"to the vile affections; to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts;" "to a reprobate mind to do those things which are not convenient." And for what reason? "Because that, when they knew God they glorified Him not as God, neither were thankful;" "because they changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator;" "because they did not like to retain God in their knowledge."

The actual condition of the heathen, then, need not be a matter of doubt. They are without God. And, the true idea of God wholly effaced from their thoughts, the true conception of life also, both for the present and the future, is in total eclipse. What this means we may, at least dimly, conceive. That God is as certainly present in China, India and Africa and elsewhere as He is here present at this moment, no one doubts. But what of that, if they do not recognize and know Him so as to love and trust Him? A man may be enveloped with light, but if he has eyes which see not, he is without light; the most rapturous strains of music may fill the air all about him, but if he has ears which hear not, he is without music. And Paul, referring to the condition of the heathen, says in his Epistle to the Ephesians, iv., 18, 19: "They are alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their hearts; who, being past feeling, have given themselves over to lasciviousness, to work all uncleanness with greediness." "Ignorant," "blind of heart," "past feeling," therefore, "alienated from the life of God." Picture, if you can, all that such a condition implies. What utter emptiness! What a dearth of everything beautiful and ennobling! Adrift upon a stormy sea without reliable chart, compass or pilot! Distressed and scattered abroad

—Christ, who is the supreme manifestation of the living, loving God to man; Christ, made to us wisdom and righteousness and sanctification and redemption—and to make him known through his message, committed to her as a precious trust for world-wide dissemination. And, as a returned missionary said at the World's Missionary Congress in Chicago: "Nothing is foreign to this work which reveals His spirit, or is characteristic of His kingdom; and nothing is essential to it which is peculiar to any sect, any race or any civilization."

And in the administration of this trust, we should not overlook the fact that the gospel is given, not simply to save souls from their sins, but also to transform the social conditions into which souls are born into the world. It is intended not merely to restore man to right relations with God, but also to bring him into right relations with his fellow-man. Revelation certainly teaches, says Dr. Josiah Strong, that final earthly society is to be perfect. It is not to be a changeless society, for, as he adds, intelligence demands endless growth; but it is to be free from all taint of evil, "without spot or wrinkle or any such thing"—"a new earth," "which shall remain," "wherein dwelleth righteousness," where sin and sorrow shall be unknown, for these "former things shall have passed away." Therefore, all of those Christian agencies which help to promote so glorious a result—all of which are as truly the work of Christ as the wonders he wrought during His earthly ministry—belong to the world at large as such, as certainly as the brief record of His life and teachings. You remember the owner of the "talents" exacted of his servants a strict account not only of the original number entrusted to them, but also of every additional talent they had earned. We may preach the same gospel the apostles preached, and it may speak to the individual heart as simply and directly as when it was first proclaimed; but if we fail to include those increments of the gospel which it has gained during the past eighteen centuries, it is probable we will not be able to render a satisfactory account of our trusteeship. Ever since the star shone over Bethlehem, Christianity has been making history for itself; new conditions of living have been created where it prevailed, new methods of applying it have been developed, and hundreds of educating and civilizing agencies have sprung up through its influence; and the whole world has as much right to these as it has to know who Christ was and what He said and did.

What then? Can we hold back the Gospel from those for whose benefit we have been put in trust with it and be guiltless? I know of nothing save downright ignorance that has even a "ghost of a chance" of being accepted as a valid excuse. And even this is likely to prove insufficient, if we have had opportunity to know, but have failed to improve it. But if we hold it back through neglect, indifference, disinclination, unbelief, narrowness, selfishness or avarice, it is, to say the least, a breach of good faith for which no adequate apology can be framed. It is more. It is sin against God. It is injustice to humanity. It is a species of refined cruelty akin to the inhumanity of man to man which makes countless millions mourn. No pastor who is so unfortunate as to have to encounter such recreancy can afford to gloss it over with vain excuses, or treat it as if it were a light matter. It is not a trivial matter. It is fraught

we must not mistake the borrowed beauty of a few rainbows for the inherent splendor of the sun. Christ only is the Light of the world. All other lights, if worthy to be called lights at all, are simply his lesser lights. They shine only as they reflect the brightness of his glory. The Apostle Paul was careful to say, "Our exhortation was not of deceit"—was not an adroit blending or concealing of truth with error so as to make it pleasant to rebellious palates—"nor of uncleanness"—not emasculated by weak concessions to adapt it to the carnal preferences of heathen taste and Jewish prejudices—"nor in guile"—not with flattering speech, or spectacular display, or with enticing words of man's wisdom. He was entrusted with a message—"Christ, the wisdom of God and the power of God unto salvation"—a message which to the Jews was a stumbling-block and to the Greeks foolishness, and this message he delivered everywhere he went without apology and free from taint of corruption.

And shall we prove less true to our trust? Dare we muffle the Lord's trumpet, or cause it to give forth an uncertain sound? Dare we mix with the "good seed" just enough of the bad to adapt it to the wishes of those who really prefer "tears?" Talk of adapting the Gospel so as to make it conform to modern ideas! Would it not be better to reverse the proposition? Let us have better methods of applying it, if you will; but a new Gospel? Never! Exchange the old scabbard for one of later style if it should become necessary; but let us hold on to the old sword. Nothing like this tried and trusty old blade to lay bare the desperate wickedness of the human heart and slay the man of sin. Nothing like it either to heal the ills and woes of sinning, suffering humanity everywhere. The one sufficient corrective of the world's disorders, the one true answer to all its deepest yearnings, is the Gospel—the Gospel of a living, loving, merciful God, mediated and manifested by the living, loving, suffering Christ, and applied to the souls of men by the personal agency of the Holy Spirit. And this Gospel, "unfettered by ceremony, unmystified by philosophy, undiluted by human opinions, and undisfigured by human incrustations"—the Church of to-day is required to send or carry to as many as she can reach in this generation.

3. God has conditioned the filling up of that which is behind in the work of redemption upon the faithfulness of the Church to her trust. Will it startle you to be told that, notwithstanding the work of Christ on the cross, the descent of the Holy spirit to abide in the Church forever, and the closing of the sacred Canon, the work of redemption is nevertheless still incomplete? There is at least one passage in which this fact is pretty clearly stated. In his Epistle to the Colossians, the Apostle Paul says: "I now rejoice in my sufferings for you *and fill up that which is behind in the afflictions of Christ in my flesh for His body's sake, which is the Church.*" He here suggests that there is something behind in the sufferings of Christ which remains to be filled up, a sort of lack in the scheme of human salvation which even the cross left unsupplied. And he expressly states that this lack, this empty space in the circle of redeeming grace, He Himself helped to fill up by His own sufferings and sacrifices.

The work of redemption advances toward completeness by successive stages, and by the harmonious working together of certain divinely appointed agencies.

as sheep having no shepherd! True, God has not left Himself without witness, even in heathen lands, in that he does good and gives rain from heaven and fruitful seasons. They have the witness of God in nature, but even their natural theology is without competent interpreters. Besides, waving harvests and refreshing showers do not bear witness unto salvation. "Rain and food are no prophets preaching life amid the famine of the soul."

Now, if the heathen are to be turned from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God; if they are to be renewed in the knowledge of God, as Saviour, Redeemer and Friend; if they are to know Him as the Forgiver of iniquity, transgression and sin, the work will have to be done through the gospel as witnessed by those who have been put in trust with it. As well might a man try to lift himself by his boot-straps as for the heathen to undertake to work out their highest destiny without the light of the Gospel. They have tried it for centuries, with the result that they have grown worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived. Salvation is alone of God through Christ; and what they need to know is the eternal personal love of God, as manifest in the character and work of Jesus Christ, and as applied to the thoughts, emotions and purposes of men by the personal agency of the Holy Spirit. As Dr. George A. Gordon says: "We must never forget that Christianity is first of all a doctrine of God, and then of God mediated by the Son of God, and if we wish to see Christian civilization carried over the earth we must go to the root of the matter." And who but those who have gone to the root of the matter and have come forth with the scales struck from their eyes are competent to lead the blind? And if they do not undertake to guide them into the light, by what means is their darkness to be dissipated? "How shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe on Him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? and how shall they preach except they be sent?" As regards the working out of the noblest destiny of the heathen, the Church, holding in trust the Gospel for the nations, I verily believe, holds the key to the whole situation. She stands between the living and the dead, with one hand, so to speak, upon the Eternal Source of life, herself charged with its quickening currents, and with the other hand free to reach forth whithersoever she will to rescue the helpless and perishing. Like the angels at the sepulchre, her place is where death reigns, and her mission is to break every seal of pagan error and roll away every stone of ignorance and superstition, and so clear the way for a universal resurrection unto spiritual life and power and immortal hope.

And do I need to remind you that in the prosecution of this noble task the only instrument upon which the Church can safely rely for permanent success is the glorious Gospel of the blessed God? This is her dynamite for blasting, her trowel for building, her sword for slaying and her balm for healing. She has been put in trust with it because it is both efficient and sufficient. Nothing can take the place of the Gospel. To attempt to substitute something else for it is a breach of trust. Even its rightful accessories should not be exalted into undue prominence. Art and science and philosophy, theological dogmas, educational agencies and ecclesiastical machinery all have their proper places, but

either weaken or stimulate, advance or retard the fulfillment of his saving purposes. If we are intelligent, prayerful, unselfish, faithful, and love souls, we will not only increase the efficiency of His chain of saving agencies, but add more and more to the length thereof, until it extends through every valley and over every mountain, stretches across every sea and encircles every continent. But if we are uninformed, indifferent, narrow and selfish, we will check the wheels of progress, and become as drift-wood and rubbish in the channels of communication between God and lost souls.

And is it not distressing to think that so many in the Church answer to this last description? How it must grieve the heart of the Son of God that so few of His professed followers have any real sympathy with Him in his travail for lost souls. Think of the stupendous display of grace by which He seeks to reach and save them! Think of the Fountain of the Water of Life, full to the brim, and adequate in quantity and power to rejuvenate the whole earth! And yet the human channels meant to convey it into every land, so clogged by apathy, unbelief, worldliness, self-indulgence and the love of ease, that its refreshing currents have not sufficient outlet to satisfy and recover the thirsty and dying! A billion souls sitting amid the shadows of dying hopes and approaching doom, not because God does not love them or Christ did not die for them, but because the Church is so slow in fulfilling her sacred trust. O, ought we not to feel like hiding our faces in shame that we are practically making the cross of none effect in so many lands, because we are doing so little to connect its marvelous light and power with the benighted and lost! Only here and there a missionary prayer-meeting; but one or two sermons a year in our pulpits on missions; little or no effort to give instruction and stimulate interest in the subject; nine-tenths of us not giving a cent for foreign missions; and the whole Christian Church laying on the altar annually for the conversion of the heathen less than an average of forty cents per member. Meanwhile, the blessed Son of God, with tender gaze fixed upon a faltering, hesitating Church, waits, waits, waits to see the travail of His soul and be satisfied!

(21.) Report of the Committee on Journals.

We have examined the journals coming into our hands as carefully as time would allow. We find many of them well-kept, and have found in none of them any unlawful actions recorded.

Two features we would recommend: 1. A conference roll of ministerial members in a permanent form, similar to church registers now in use. 2. The publication in the minutes of the postoffice address of each pastor as it will be when he has taken the place assigned him by the Conference.

The following named Conferences have not placed their journals in our hands: Louisiana and Minnesota Mission Conferences, Charleston (colored), North Georgia (colored), Spring Creek (colored), Arkansas (colored), Baltimore (colored), Texas Gulf, Boston, California.

The first link in the chain which connects the saving power of God with lost souls is the atonement of His Son, which is the ground of salvation; the second is the Word of God, which is the instrument of salvation; the third is the Holy Spirit, whose office it is to apply the truth, and to convince of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment. But whether taken separately, or all together, these three links are insufficient to effect the purposes of redeeming grace. How can the cross plant itself with its light and life in the midst of those who sit in darkness and the shadow of death? What power has the Gospel to propagate its message of mercy and hope for the benighted and lost? How can even the Holy Spirit without a suitable channel of communication lay hold of unregenerate hearts? Wonderful, indeed, is the grace which has brought salvation so near, but it is neither irreverent nor extravagant to say that this is not near enough to reach and restore lost and ruined sinners. Another link is needed. The atoning blood needs a mouthpiece to declare its wondrous efficacy; the Gospel must have messengers to proclaim its glad tidings; and even the Holy Spirit requires a conductor for his quickening and regenerating energy.

And it has pleased God not to lay upon the angels the honor and responsibility of supplying this needed link. Desiring as they do to look into the mystery of redeeming grace, doubtless legions upon legions of them would, if allowed the privilege, fly forth through every land to fill up that which is behind in the afflictions of His Son. But unto us has been committed the ministry of reconciliation; unto us, whom he hath reconciled unto Himself by Jesus Christ, he hath committed the word of reconciliation; to wit, that God was in Christ reconciling the world unto Himself, imputing not their trespasses unto them. History contains, perhaps, not a single instance of conversion independent of human instrumentality. Even Paul needed instruction from Annanias before the scales fell from his eyes. "I have long since ceased to pray," said the late Dr. Gordon, "Lord Jesus have compassion upon a lost world." I remember the day and hour when I seemed to hear the Lord rebuking me for making such a prayer. He seemed to say to me, "I have had compassion on a lost world, now it remains for you to have compassion. I have left you to fill up that which is behind in mine afflictions in the flesh for the body's sake, which is the Church. I have given my heart, give your hearts."

In the light of these facts, how solemn is our responsibility! How important, aye, how vital, the part required of us in fulfilling God's purposes concerning the salvation of the world. Who is to fill up that which is lacking? Who is to supply the connecting link between the saving power of God and a lost world? Who, indeed, but the preacher, the teacher, the loyal disciple, whose soul is fired with a passion for humanity because He Himself has been delivered from the bondage of sin? Who, but the humble believer who has himself tasted of the powers of the world to come? True, as some one has forcibly said, Christ alone can save the world, but He cannot save the world alone. That he has declared the world will be saved is assurance that it will be done. The word of God assures the work of God. But that he uses human agencies shows the progress of that work depends largely upon the efficiency of those agencies. Our relation to Christ and His work is such, that we may

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character as to add very much to its effectiveness and secure its permanency. It is incorporated under an Act of the General Assembly of the State of Maryland, but is controlled by the Methodist Protestant Church. We are glad to note that the equipment of this institution has been very materially increased since the submission of the last report. But that you may be able more fully to judge of this, and understand more definitely the aims and needs of the college at Westminster, we herewith submit the report of President Lewis.

2. Adrain College: It is scarcely needful that we should say anything in commendation of the work and purposes of this institution. Under the management of D. C. Thomas some changes have been made in the conduct of the institution, which we hope will result in larger success, and make certain the permanency of the college. All of our institutions have felt the burden of the prevailing stringency in financial matters, but, notwithstanding this, Adrain has gone steadily forward adding to its facilities, and has increased largely its yearly income. Yet, there are many things needed at Adrain to make it just what the Church wants and needs. No question can be raised as to the high quality of its literary standard, nor of the thoroughness of all the work it does. In these particulars it is not surpassed by any. But what the Church needs and must have at Adrain is a better school of theology, a department distinct and separate, and manned by those thoroughly competent to conduct such a department, where young men who are to be prepared for the Gospel ministry and for usefulness in our Church may pursue their studies; that the Church may have given to it men trained in her own schools and instructed in the truths which are the basis, and in the reason for our existence as a denomination. We would recommend that the Trustees of Adrain College be instructed to at once take such steps as will secure to the Church such a school at Adrain as will command the respect of the Church, and commend itself to the students, and annihilate the thought existing in so many quarters that other institutions are better than our own. To do this money will be needed, and needed in large amounts; but if the need of the Church is so great surely the response in money will be great.

3. We would recommend further that where it is practicable, and we believe the day has come when it is practicable in most instances, that the management of our institutions be placed in the hands of men of our own denomination; that the boards of trustees be composed of those who are identified with us denominationally; that the legislation necessary to conduct these institutions be such as will meet the demands of the denomination. We believe that men who understand our Church, its thought, its purposes, its spirit, ought to be in the positions where legislation originates which determines the policy of our colleges and schools.

In the absence of a report from the trustees of Adrian College, D. C. Thomas, president of the college, appeared before your committee and gave us such information as he had at command, and requested the privilege of being heard by the Conference. We recommend that his request be granted.

4. *Kansas City University*.—This is comparatively a new enterprise, and has made considerable progress in the direction of establishing itself. Great

We would call the attention of this body to the impossibility of our making a careful reading of the records of one hundred and forty-eight Conference sessions (to say nothing of Mission Conferences) in the time at our disposal.

As action has already been taken requiring Conference Secretaries to supply the President of the General Conference with copies of their minutes, we recommend that the President be asked to examine such copies as come into his hands with a view to calling the attention of the Committee on Journals to any points requiring its notice, and that the committee be excused from any further examination of journals already examined by the President.

T. J. STRICKLER,
W. J. ELLIOTT,
J. D. CHRISTIAN,

MILES PEARSON,
W. L. TRENNER,
WM. A. EWING.

(22.) Report of the Committee on Education.

The Committee on Education reports as follows:

From information placed in our hands, we find that our institutions of learning are making satisfactory progress, doing with commendable zeal and consecration the work committed to their care:

The colleges at Westminster and Adrian during the last quadrennium have accomplished work in educational directions which will tell in the future life and history of our Methodism. At these institutions especially those who are to place themselves at the disposal of the Church are educated, and their lives directed toward the largest usefulness. In this important work the faculties of the institutions are earnestly engaged, and deserve the patronage of the whole Church.

We would especially urge that the Church at large respond to what these institutions are doing; the zeal and sacrifice of those in our colleges ought not to be in vain. The work done in our colleges commends itself to every intelligent man; the results are remarkable when the facilities for doing the work are considered. The church expects results from our colleges that shall be in no wise inferior to those secured by institutions with all the facilities which liberality and generous endowment provide, and yet does not provide her institutions with all the necessary equipment to make them in fact what is demanded of them in theory.

All our institutions of learning merit an increased patronage because the scholarly attainments of those who comprise the faculties demonstrate that they are capable of doing for those who wish to be educated as much, and, indeed, more than can be done by institutions not allied to nor under the control of the denomination. That you may have some definite conception of what our institutions are, what they are doing and what they need, we desire to present the following facts, and submit therewith the following recommendations:

1. Western Maryland College: From the report of President Lewis we learn that this institution has in the last quadrennium made progress of such a

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT OF WESTERN MARYLAND COLLEGE.

To the General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church,

Assembled at Kansas City, Kan.:

DEAR BRETHREN: As President of one of the official colleges of the Church, I have the honor to present a report of the condition and prospects of Western Maryland College, at Westminster, Md. At the last General Conference, which was held in Westminster, we had the great pleasure of presenting the facts themselves, as the Conference made an inspection of our buildings and grounds.

What they then saw and expressed satisfaction in seeing has been since that time increased and beautified. We have made steady progress in the last four years, and the present condition of the college, while far from being ideally satisfactory, is such as ought to gladden all friends of the Church. Briefly stated, the chief features of this condition are:

1. The erection of three handsome buildings since the last General Conference has greatly increased our facilities and conveniences. By the munificent gift of W. G. Baker, of Buckeystown, Md., a chapel has been built, and by the liberality of another friend a pipe organ has been placed in it. It was dedicated May 12, 1895, and furnishes accommodation for the college Sunday-school and the regular preaching services on Sunday evenings for the students. No gift ever made to the college has been more fitting or calculated to do more for the spiritual interests of those concerned.

During the summer of 1895 two other buildings were erected, one for the residence of a professor, and the other for male boarding students. This last building, known as Ward Hall, is built for dormitory purposes, and is of modern design and arrangement. It is fitted with every convenience to give our students the most pleasant surroundings and comforts while attending school. At the same time electricity was introduced in all the buildings, so that we have now, by steam heat and electric light, reduced the risk of fire to a minimum.

In making these improvements we have incurred some debt. But although debt ought not to be reckoned generally among the promising features of any organization, we feel that our debt is not of an alarming character. All that the College owes is included in a mortgage for fifteen thousand dollars, bearing five per cent. interest. We foresee no difficulty in gradually paying off this debt as we have paid other similar debts in the course of a few years.

2. And here it may be allowable to take a retrospective view of the last ten years, in order that the Conference may base their confidence on full knowledge of all the facts. For this reason it is hoped the personal reference involved may be excused. In that time the College has paid off the remainder of an old debt for the purchase money of the property; it has spent nearly one hundred thousand dollars in new buildings, furniture and equipment; it has increased the number of students over one hundred and thirty per cent.; it has done all this without any donation from individuals or from the State, except fifteen thousand dollars contributed for buildings, and without any endowment. The amount of help received from the State is the payment of

determination to succeed is evidenced in what has already been done, and promise is given of future success. We commend the institution to the whole Church, believing its success will inure largely to the power and usefulness of our denomination. From our knowledge of the questions raised regarding the legal phases of the institution's standing, and its relations to the Methodist Protestant Church, we think there need be no fears, but that you may have the information regarding these matters as we have it, we herewith submit the report of the chancellor, D. S. Stephens. A recommendation appears in this report asking for a special measure making it the duty of each church to take an offering for the university, and urging that this offering be not less than one dollar per member. This, if done, would relieve the institution very much. We would recommend that the General Conference take such action as will endorse the desire of the chancellor. We are in full sympathy with the express purpose of the trustees of the university not to incur any debt upon the buildings or grounds (campus) of the institution.

5. We would recommend that the following persons be elected trustees of Adrian College: F. F. Brierly, Alexander Patton, J. F. Cowen, S. S. Stanton, W. H. Pierpont, Roscoe Swift, T. B. Graham, J. F. Henkle, G. C. Sheppard, W. B. Priddy, N. Geddes and J. S. Thrapp.

6. For trustees of Kansas City University, we recommend the following persons: F. T. Tagg, C. S. Bradley, C. E. Custis, T. J. Proser, H. G. G. Fink, C. H. St. John, J. V. May, J. V. Andrews, Thomas Sankey, J. S. Thrapp, Ira V. Poste and T. J. Shephard.

7. The report of the president of Westminster Theological Seminary was presented, and from information we received we understand that endeavor is being made to make this school take the place it ought to have. We recommend that the following persons be elected as governors of the seminary: L. D. Stulz, J. W. Hull, F. R. Harris, Benjamin Stout and C. E. Crenshaw.

8. We recommend that the trustees of our various educational institutions be instructed to present to the General Conference a report of the exact status of the institutions they represent; that there be data to use in the formation of reports which will enable the Conference to understand all the operations of the Boards during the quadrennium.

9. WHEREAS, There is a young and struggling college now organized at Westminster, Texas, the purpose of which is to give young persons of slender means an opportunity for a better education than the public schools afford, under the auspices of our own Church, and especially to educate ministers for our growing Southwestern Conferences; therefore,

Resolved, That this Conference extend to this young institution its cordial sympathy, with the hope that it may be made of great and lasting benefit to the conferences in the great Southwest.

H. STACKHOUSE,
GEORGE C. SHEPPARD,
W. M. STRAYER,
J. A. SELBY,

W. A. McCORKLE,
F. R. HARRIS,
J. R. VANNORSDELL,
THOMAS A. MURRAY.

(a) A reasonable endowment fund, either of separate chairs, or of a general endowment for the use of the college. It is unnecessary to present reasons. No college has ever lived without it, and we have no right to presume on the good Providence of the last thirty years.

(b) We need twenty thousand dollars with which to erect a commodious Assembly Hall for the public uses of the college. This is a building which has been deferred fifteen years beyond its actual need.

(c) We have recently invited contributions of two hundred dollars each to fill cases in our library as memorials. Five have been taken, and we hope this appeal will reach others who may like to thus connect their name with the college by such a gift.

Earnestly hoping that the Conference may find the work well done which has been committed to us, and that we may thereby gain increased confidence and sympathy from all sections of our Church, this report is respectfully submitted.

T. H. LEWIS, *President*.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT OF ADRIAN COLLEGE.

MAY 15, 1896.

To the General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church, Kansas City, Kansas:

BRETHREN: In eighteen hundred and fifty-nine Adrian College started on a career of her own, under the auspices of the Wesleyan Methodist connection, and has continued an uninterrupted existence to the present time.

During these years she has shared the common vicissitudes of college life. She has, besides the usual financial embarrassments, passed through two fires, destroying both North and South Halls, the two dormitories respectively. She also passed through a cyclone which unroofed the chapel, but, notwithstanding these misfortunes, she has never closed her doors for a single term during a most interesting and unbroken period of more than a third of a century.

During these eventful years thousands of students have quenched their thirst for knowledge, and upwards of five hundred have graduated from her halls, receiving her diplomas and her honors. Few colleges can boast of better men and women than the sons and daughters of old Adrian. Men who received their education and inspiration at Adrian College are represented in this General Conference. The Stephens, the Jennings, the Sheppards, and many more are your honored members. She has contributed to our Church leaders whom it is an honor to follow and whom we delight to honor.

In eighteen hundred and sixty-seven the College was transferred to the Methodist Protestant denomination, and ever since that time she has been under the full and complete control of this body, and, if history is faithful, she is the only institution of learning in our Church so fully under the control of the General Conference, and, therefore, I have at this time and place the honor to represent Adrian College, whose welfare is near and dear to every brother and

the bills of twenty-six students sent there to be educated for teachers in the public schools; and although we have two thousand dollars in the savings bank, which we are saving as the nucleus for an endowment, we use no revenue from it. To offset this we charge up a present debt of the amount stated above. When it is asked how this has been done, the answer is found in the sacrificing labors of a devoted faculty and the close scrutiny and careful management of the Board of Trustees. Under God's blessing these have wrought out a work which is certainly rare, if not unparalleled, in the history of colleges.

3. The question of future enlargement is pressing upon us now in a way that requires immediate attention. The new building, enlarging any capacity previously required, was immediately filled, and while next year's roll may be smaller in the natural fluctuations of such things, the prospect is not unreasonable to entertain that it may be larger. We are constantly drawing on new communities. States unrepresented a few years ago are now sending students regularly, and as soon as the present business straitness opens a little we may expect a decided increase in our present rate of progress. What is needed most of all is the sympathy of our own people. If our own members should remove their children from the schools of other churches and send them to Western Maryland, we should be obliged to turn away half the applicants next year for lack of room. And since we believe our College is so located and so solidly founded in the elements of righteousness, both of spirit and work, that great enlargement must soon come, we lift up the warning and the appeal to the men and women whom God has blessed with wealth to provide for the future now. The Methodist Protestant Church, and all churches, and all givers combined, have not given to Western Maryland College fifty thousand dollars since it was organized thirty years ago. Here it stands now stalwart, hopeful and busy, almost too busy to ask, yet needing help as it never needed it before; not to save it, but to enlarge it and make it a greater blessing. When a management is found able to care for small things, is it not good business as well as sound doctrine to give it large things to care for?

In this connection, we would make grateful mention of a bequest made to us by the late Rev. A. H. Trumbo, of Springfield, Ohio. This is good; it is magnanimous. But it would be best of all if we could regard it as the beginning of many more of a similar nature to follow. If we can think the whole Church is soon to wake up to a responsive benevolence so general that the East shall give up and the West shall keep not back, then, indeed, we can rejoice that our "thirty years war" with debt, discouragement and indifference is soon to close, and we may expect to see the noblest hill God ever lifted for an intellectual beacon crowned with as noble an educational institution as our Church could desire. It is because I see this good day coming that I present to you, along with other facts, these facts and figures of the future, and appeal for co operation in the attempt to realize them.

4. In order that this appeal may take definite shape, we desire the Conference to consider, and, if in its judgment it is wise, to commend the following objects toward which we would direct the benevolence of the Church:

secrated this College to His service He would permit it to stand until the present and then withdraw His fostering care? The best evidence of divine approval is His constant and abiding favor. And if we are, in circumstances of so much mercy and so many blessings, not to prosper *here*, after all our hopes, what promise have we that we shall succeed anywhere else, and would there be anything to encourage further effort in other fields?

Perhaps no one thing affected the College so adversely as the proposition of *removal*. Fire did not destroy the courage, nor cyclone shatter the confidence like the idea of removal. After the College had had a long and useful career, after she had a long list of honored graduates, whose affections were centered in the old home and whose college life had made this home a sacred spot in their memories, what a shock to the better and more grateful feeling of all who loved their *Alma Mater*.

While we may not impugn the motives of those who originated this proposition, we must condemn their judgment. Nothing has so discouraged those who had given of their lives and means to her support, and nothing has so shaken the confidence and trust of her friends, who had in their hearts to give as this departure. Although three years have passed since this movement was inaugurated, the College has not fully survived the effects thus produced. Are there not here and there those who would hesitate to give their support until they could be assured of her permanency? May we not thank the Lord that the calamity was averted before it had accomplished its full purpose. But we all know more of the past than of the future. The past has lost its interest. You are all no doubt more anxious to know something of the present policy and outlook of the College.

A new departure was inaugurated three years ago, when I was called to the presidency of the College. This was at a critical period in the history of the institution. It was in the midst of the financial depression of our country, which has continued up to the present with increasing intensity.

The condition of the College was not flattering. In order to establish confidence and increase patronage something had to be done, and how to do it without means was the question. I could promise nothing phenomenal. I could bring no new device which had not already been tried. Every financial scheme had been exhausted and every method for increasing patronage had been practiced with more or less success. To undertake the task under such circumstances was little less than presumption. But the cause could not be abandoned, although the future was dark and unpromising. It was the crucial period which had come to the College and her friends. They had to re-consecrate themselves to the work before them, and, with a heroic courage, determine, with the help of God, to go forward.

The history of colleges had no plan by which they could be run without money and without students. No process had been patented by which such a result could with certainty be obtained. There was nothing left us but the exercise of good hard sense and faith in the future. We were forced to perform the financial paradox of getting out of debt by going into debt. We felt the necessity of making the accommodations of the College equal to other

sister of our Church. Her success means success to the Church. There can be no great country, nor state, nor society, nor church, without great men. Distinguished men are essential, and no great things can be accomplished without them. The greatness of the Methodist Protestant Church depends upon the ability of her ministry. What is needed to advance the interests of our denomination is a large body of educated men. Piety and consecration are essential, but not the only essentials. Vital and intelligent religion is needed in this day and age of progress. We need not expect to hold people except in country places without a strong ministry, nor can we hope to enlarge the borders of our Church or advance the cause of Christ without an educated, aggressive and consecrated ministry. And where shall these men come from but from our own institutions of learning? These institutions must be cherished and sustained else our influence will be weak and our efforts futile. No denomination stands for anything to-day without colleges and seminaries—and these must be supported to the point of respectability. Weak and sickly concerns mean a weak and sickly Church. This truth should go without saying. The experience of the world most abundantly verifies this statement, and our people should be fully awake and alive to this great fact that we have to face. Slackness and indifference are inexcusable. It is a sin to espouse a cause and then leave it all to chance. Every time we abandon a church or school we show to the world our weakness.

Every cause must abide by the law of "*the survival of the fittest*," and Adrian College has made a heroic struggle for existence. Her efforts to live have shown marvellous vitality and must challenge the admiration of our people. Without adequate endowment, without necessary equipment, library or laboratories, she has maintained a high standard of scholarship. In this particular she has held her head high up among her sister colleges of the State, and her certificates have always been at par in the State University. A student of Adrian College can enter the University of Michigan and take the same rank. Our certificates are honored by the University.

But the marvel is how could our College maintain such standing during all these years with insufficient endowment and with inadequate equipment?

It has been because of the self-sacrificing devotion of men who have given themselves wholly to the cause of our beloved faith. Adrian College is a monument more to the spirit of unselfish devotion and honorable service than to the munificence of our Church. Our good Dr. McElroy is an example, the parallel of which is not found in the history of many institutions. He has served the Church and College for half a century, thirty years of which have been devoted to the welfare of our College, with steady purpose and unflagging zeal. He has stood by his post and his conviction of duty both in season and out of season, often with salary incommensurate, and sometimes without the prospect of any.

It has been largely through the courage and faith of this brother and many others that Adrian College remains to the Church to day. In studying the history of Adrian College I think she is a wonderful example of the providence of God. She could not stand to-day blessing the Church if the protecting hand of God were not stretched over her. Do you think that after God's people con-

collections. If each congregation within the range of our patronizing conferences would raise on the average of \$100 for Adrian College endowment, the problem would be solved. Or if they would annually contribute the interest on this amount the financial claims of the College would be provided for. This ought to be done without the everlasting annual begging. It is the policy of the present administration to neither beg nor plead poverty. We do not believe in "*passing the hat*" for penny collections. A college will never be built nor sustained in this way. The dignified and proper thing to do is for our pastors to present the claims of education to their people once a year and take a liberal collection. They should feel that they have not done their whole duty without insisting upon a collection worthy of the cause. The future welfare of our Church, as well as of the College, depends largely upon the success of this policy. President Andrews, of Brown University, in his speech to the Baptist Congress, said: "There are two obligations resting on the denomination: First, Justice and charity in judging of college work; and secondly, it owed them *students and money*."

A minister should not feel that giving to the College is *charity* any more than the payment of his salary is *charity*. Helping the College is helping our boys and girls. It is not a *personal* favor nor a *private* gift. The young people of our denomination are entitled to the best there is. They are not to be deprived of a superior education *because* they are Methodist Protestants.

The Congregational Church is a great power to-day because she has perfect educational equipment. The colleges are the means of training the leaders for the church and advancing the kingdom of Christ. For buildings and general improvements we should look for help from friends of the College whom God has blessed with abundance—friends in our Church who have no immediate heirs, and who might be led to see that they could erect a monument in their life time more enduring than marble. Everywhere in the east, north, west and south we see magnificent institutions, with well-equipped and ample buildings, donated by patrons and friends, whose names they bear. Already one man has set the example, and another has just completed arrangements with our Executive Board to remodel our old chapel at an expense of \$5,000. And soon our college campus will be graced with two buildings having the names of the donors.

And in this connection I hold that the funds and property of the College should be held as a sacred trust.

In my recommendations to the Board of Trustees last year I urged that endowment funds given for special purposes should be kept distinct and separate. Endowment funds should not be "pooled," and should any part of a special fund be lost in bad investment or otherwise, such loss should at once be replaced by special effort through subscription. So that if \$20,000 be given to endow a chair, such sum should be kept complete that there should be no permanent loss or lapse of identity.

We must take the people into our confidence if we want them to open their pocket-books. They should feel that the College is an institution as worthy to be trusted as the best bank. Loans should be made with as great care as is

colleges. Students could not, even of Methodist families, be expected to pass by much better equipped institutions near home to attend Adrian. These conditions were presented in my report to the Board of Trustees at their annual meeting, June, 1894. The Board, with unanimous vote, authorized certain improvements and expenditures, which were carried out and endorsed by the Board at its next annual meeting, and the wisdom of such action has been abundantly justified by the results. The economy in the management and the readjustment of college expenses have steadily increased the net income of the College. At the close of the year 1893, the report shows the net income from all sources to have been about \$12,000, while this year it will reach the sum of \$22,000. Of course we have increased the expenses, and they should be increased yet more in the future, and an annual income of at least \$25,000 should be assured. Adrian College can not be successfully carried on with less than this sum.

The endowment fund of Adrian College has never been large enough. She has never had more than \$80,000 of invested productive funds. It is true more than this has at times been reported, and no doubt these reports have been honestly made, but such sums were never productive. A large amount of the endowment was in individual notes, the interest on which was not always paid. There are thousands of dollars in such notes in the college safe which are worthless, interest and principal. These notes were often obtained from people whose *will* was good, but who could never fulfill their promise. Many subscriptions were reported, but only a small per cent. was ever realized on such lists.

The College could not afford to embarrass her well meaning friends by forcing collections, and hence the college has had the credit of having had more help than she ever realized, and, on this account, she has suffered criticism which she did not deserve. The true financial condition has never been fully understood. I do not believe that there has ever been a misrepresentation by any of the officials, but it was a matter that could never at any given time be calculated with any degree of certainty, and it is but natural that the most hopeful side would be presented. Financial agents had a hard time to raise money, and they would, no doubt, make the most encouraging report possible, and if they placed too much confidence in promises they were not altogether to blame for their non-fulfillment. And the same is true to-day. Every effort of this nature will have to have the same experience. Human nature is the same everywhere and at all times, and we cannot presume too much confidence, nor count money before it is in our hands. Investment on promises has often proven disastrous, and many have been the melancholy failures because of this mistake.

No college can have a high and independent standing which has not at least \$200 000 in productive funds as endowment. Our neighbors, Hillsdale and Albion Colleges, have each over \$200,000 in invested funds, as may be seen in their last annual reports. What Adrian needs to-day is an increase of her endowment, and this is what she will have to have unless the various churches through their congregations contribute more generously to their college-day

East and West. Where 'ere we go we find the good will and patronage that only time and labor can accumulate, and which become a mighty power for future usefulness.

Brethren and old friends of Adrian, shall we not reconsecrate ourselves to her cause? Shall we not here in this conference, before Almighty God, promise that we will exert all the ability that in us lies to bring to the College our sympathy, our children and our money? The College craves the very best that there is in us and of us—a full consecration.

I would be glad to visit every pastor and congregation within the range of our patronizing conferences and present the claims of our College personally. It is, however, easier for each of the two thousand ministers to become acquainted with our work than for us to meet each in fields so widely scattered. Can you do a wiser thing than to introduce Adrian College to some young person whose abilities and aspirations make it evident that he ought to have a liberal education? What better thing can you do this year than to awaken in some young mind an earnest desire for Christian learning?

Before closing I must thank the good brethren of our Church whom I have met in private and public conferences, and who have extended to me the right hand of fellowship and have given me a cordial welcome.

Your expressions of confidence have encouraged my efforts. I would be untrue to my feelings if I did not, on this occasion, express my gratitude and appreciation. It affords me great pleasure to make this public acknowledgment. What I crave, brethren, is your sympathy, your confidence, your advice and your prayers.

Respectfully submitted,

D. C. THOMAS, *President Adrian College.*

In behalf and by order of the Trustees.

STATEMENT OF THE COMMITTEE APPOINTED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
THE KANSAS CITY UNIVERSITY TO THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE
METHODIST PROTESTANT CHURCH.

DEAR BRETHREN: The Board appointed by the last General Conference for the purpose of establishing an institution of learning in the West, should an opportunity offer, reports as follows:

In September, 1894, this Board assembled to consider a proposition presented to us by Dr. S. F. Mather, of Kansas City, Kan. This proposition has been outlined from time to time in our church papers and need not be detailed here. The offer was accepted and a contract entered into by which this Board agreed to erect a building or buildings, costing not less than \$25,000, prior to the 15th of October, 1896.

On June 1, 1895, Dr. Mather died, leaving a will which devised his property to the Kansas City University, with the exception of certain bequests to his heirs. The estate of Dr. Mather consists of personal property, including cash

exercised by our best bankers, and they should be made near home on the best security.

Our friends should be made to feel that the College is a safe place to deposit their money. They should be assured that the conditions of their bequests would be faithfully executed, and that no funds would ever be diverted from the purposes named in the will of the testator.

Only in this way can we hope to obtain help from the friends of our churches and colleges.

But brick and mortar and endowment do not make the college. We must have a competent Faculty, composed of able men and women, who are devoted to their work, and who can inspire our young people. To have a college we must have students. Adrian College needs one hundred more students, and they should come from Methodist Protestant families. These could be had in Ohio alone.

The pastors of our churches can do much to aid the cause of education. It is no less a pastor's duty because it is a privilege to lay his hands upon the choicest young men and women in his congregation and to baptize them into a zeal for Christian learning and leadership. In this matter other denominations are often wiser than we are. The eager desire for the higher learning sometimes, but not often, arises spontaneously in young minds, but it is usually communicated to them by older and wiser heads.

Adrian College, in seeking and finding a foremost place amongst institutions dedicated to sound learning, has been guided by the true Methodist Protestant spirit. If she has limited the quantity of her product by setting her standards high, she has preserved the quality. Amongst her graduates are some whose names might fitly be enrolled with the great leaders of the past.

We are glad to be able to say that the opportunities for higher education now furnished at Adrian are ample and admirable. In classics, in mathematics, in modern languages, in history, in science, in theology, in music, in art, we have able teachers.

Finally, brethren, Adrian College must ever be a centre of Methodist Protestantism. She is of easy access from Buffalo, Pittsburgh, Cincinnati and Chicago. A student can take breakfast at Pittsburgh and supper at Adrian, breakfast at Chicago and dinner at Adrian. The great railroad systems have practically annihilated distance and Adrian is in easy reach of New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Iowa, Illinois and Minnesota. Besides she is located in a State noted for her educational spirit and advancement. The State University, the Harvard of the West, ranks among the best in the world. Her climate is mild and salubrious, and Adrian College is located under the shadow and influence of a great university, on a spot unsurpassed for beauty, in a city of ten thousand people, cultured and refined. Where could be found a more natural place for a seat of learning?

Besides Adrian College has gathered about her a large circle of friends. Graduates whose love and admiration are centered here. The power of an institution lies in her alumni, and Adrian is rich in graduates and students dotted here and there throughout the length and breadth of our land, North, South,

"In response to the request of your Board for a written report from us in regard to the matters and papers which have from time to time since October last come under our care and consideration as the 'legal department' of your University, we have to say as follows: The requirements and conditions of your contract with the late Dr. Mather have been complied with according to its terms, and the deed to which the University is entitled, under said contract, has been delivered by the trustee, the Wyandotte National Bank, and the land is now absolutely the property of the University. We have given consideration to the papers submitted to us, including the charter and will of Dr. Mather, etc., and under the will the University receives the entire residue of Dr. Mather's estate, and in the course of affairs it will soon now come into your treasury. There are no questions of a legal nature now open requiring our attention, at least at present, and nothing of complication so far as we are advised requiring consideration.

"W. A. MORRIS,
"D. B. MAXWELL."

Judge L. W. Keplinger, attorney for the executor of Dr. Mather's estate, who has the most intimate knowledge of all matters pertaining to the estate, also concurs in the foregoing opinion. It will thus be seen that all fears regarding legal complications are groundless.

In view of the importance of this enterprise to the whole Church, and the misunderstandings that have existed regarding it, we would request that this General Conference, when satisfied regarding this enterprise, would give such unequivocal and emphatic endorsement as will commend it to the endorsement of our people; also, as the success of this movement will be of such vital importance to the whole denomination, we earnestly desire that such measures will be taken as will put upon the whole Church the duty of assisting financially in the initial stages of this important movement. When the buildings are once erected and the institution organized, it is our belief that the real estate that will come into our possession, and the income from patronage of the institution, will be sufficient to maintain the enterprise.

We would also request that a special measure shall be adopted that shall make it the duty of each church in the denomination to make a special offering for building purposes to this institution, and that it be urged that this offering shall average, at least, one dollar per member, and further, that this offering be taken at as early a date as practicable, and not later than one year from this date.

The success or failure of this movement will depend very largely upon the co-operation of the whole denomination for a few months to come, and we earnestly request that you take every practicable measure to secure this result.

In behalf of the Board of Trustees of Kansas City University,

H. J. HEINZ,
D. S. STEPHENS,
S. J. GEDDES.

in hand, \$6,933.25; mortgages, notes, etc., of the face value of \$7,035.50; judgments, face value, \$11,554.11; chattels, \$28, making a total of \$25,582.86. In addition, there are various pieces of real estate in and around Kansas City, Kan., aggregating in all about one hundred and seventy-five acres of land, and other city properties. The real estate consists of several tracts of land, all within three miles of the center of Kansas City, Kan., and so situated that in course of time it must greatly increase in value by the growth of the city. It comprises the following: The Quindaro tract, of 67 acres; the Fuller tract, of 16 acres; the Praun tract, of 36 acres; the Morrison tract, of 41 acres; 1 acre in Riverview, $1\frac{1}{2}$ acres adjoining the Morrison tract, about 125 lots in Kensington Addition, a number of lots in Mather Place, house and lot on Armstrong street, the Mather home residence on Seventh street, house and lot in Hafner's Grove, lots 9 and 10 Edgerton Place; house and lots in Kensington Place, etc. In addition to the property bequeathed by Dr. Mather, certain citizens of Kansas City have deeded other tracts of land to the University, aggregating about 26 acres. There is thus, altogether, a total of over two hundred acres of land, besides houses and lots and what may be received from the personal estate of Dr. Mather, to be taken into consideration. All of Dr. Mather's estate, with the exception of legacies to the amount of \$8,250 is by will devised to Kansas City University. This property, in the aggregate, forms a splendid foundation for this institution. From the position in which these lands lie, overlooking the city, they will undoubtedly become ultimately of great value, and be productive of a large endowment fund.

While this estate thus bequeathed to us makes a large provision for the future, it does not help us at this time to erect buildings needed. The wise policy will be to hold these lands, for the most part, until the growth of the city enhances their value. They lie in the edge of the city, adjoining Chelsea Park. The elevated street railway already passes through a portion of them, and it is proposed to extend the road so that it will pass by and beyond the University site.

We have secured in pledges for building purposes an amount that is not far from fifty thousand dollars. A great part of this, however, is not immediately available. The value of the bequest made by Dr. Mather and the possibilities of this movement, require that we should plan for large things. We cannot properly acquit ourselves short of an expenditure of at least \$100,000 in buildings. We must not stop short of this. It will require this much in Kansas City to give us the position we ought to have. We will get help from Kansas City if we plan liberally.

There have been questions raised at various times among our people in regard to titles of the property coming to us, validity of will, etc. We brought with us our Pittsburgh attorney for the purpose of thoroughly investigating these matters, which had already been fully looked into by our attorneys in Kansas City, for the purpose of making doubly sure on every point. As the result they have prepared a paper giving their opinion, which we present as follows:

(1.) Overture.

WHEREAS, The General Conference of 1892 sent to the Annual Conferences an overture touching the eligibility of women to the office of elder and as representatives to General Conference; and,

WHEREAS, The overture has practically been disregarded and ignored in some instances because of the form in which it was presented, leaving the question of eligibility of women still undetermined; therefore,

Resolved, In order to settle the question beyond dispute, that the President and Secretary of this General Conference be and they are hereby instructed to send down to the various Annual Conferences, before their next session, the following overture, to be substituted for the first sentence of item 2, Article VIII of the Constitution:

1. "The General Conference shall consist of an equal number of ministers, either male or female, and lay representatives, either men or women."

2. *Resolved*, That women be made eligible to the order of elder in the church.

J. T. MURRAY.

(2.) Overture to Seat Presidents of Christian Endeavor Societies in Quarterly Conferences.

Item 43 of report of Judiciary Committee.

We recommend the following overture: To amend Article VI, Section 1, of the Constitution as follows: Insert the words "Presidents of Christian Endeavor Societies" after "Sabbath School Superintendents."

(3.) Overture to Elect Stewards.

Item 2, report of Judiciary Committee.

Shall the third paragraph under head of "Station and Circuit Stewards, be changed so as to read: "The station and circuit stewards shall be elected annually in the stations by the qualified members, including ministers and preachers, and in the circuits and missions by societies, each society electing its own stewards, provided that each society shall have at least one steward?"

(4.) Overture.

Resolved, That an overture be sent down to the conferences, requesting them to authorize a change in Article VIII, section 1, so as to read: "There shall be a General Conference of this Church on the third Friday in May, in the year of our Lord 1900, and on the third Friday in May in every sixth year thereafter, in such place as the Conference may determine."

F. T. TAGG,
BENJAMIN STOUT,
W. A. BUNCH,
L. W. BATES.

(23.) Report of the Committee on J. A. Spence's Catechism.

Your committee, to whom was referred the catechism of J. A. Spence, of Alabama, reports that, after a careful examination of the same, we recommend it as a work well suited to fill the place and accomplish the purpose for which it was designed by the author, and we further recommend it to the favorable consideration of all our people.

J. T. HOWELL,

J. J. BARGE,

C. A. CECIL.

(24.) Report of Committee on Fraternal Relations.

We wish to express our highest appreciation of the cordial welcome and the highly entertaining reception tendered this General Conference by the Methodist Protestants of this city, through their committee of entertainment.

We also express the sincere thanks of this General Conference to the citizens of Kansas City for the courtesy and kindness shown to us during this session, thus making our sojourn among them while engaged in our Master's work so pleasant, and enabling us to dispatch our business in the most cheerful manner.

We also deem it fitting to acknowledge our profound appreciation of the generous spirit which prompted and the munificent liberality which provided the banquet given the members of this body by H. J. Heinz on the evening of the 18th instant.

We desire to record our hearty response to the touching and eloquent words of greeting and inspiring sentiments of true, womanly courage, conveyed to this conference by Mrs. G. B. Dotson and Mrs. T. J. Sheppard as fraternal messengers from the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions.

The thanks of this Conference are due and are hereby extended to the Metropolitan Street Railway Company for their kindness in giving the members of the Conference a free excursion over its lines to Troost Park, in Kansas City, Mo., and return.

Also our hearty thanks are extended to the churches of this city for the fraternal spirit manifested toward us, to the daily papers for their very full reports of our proceedings and their courteous treatment of the Conference and its members, and to the railway companies for the favors granted the members and visitors to this Conference.

We also desire to express our high appreciation of the impartial and able manner in which the President of this General Conference has presided during the entire session, and of the entirely satisfactory way in which the Secretary and his assistants have performed the arduous duties imposed upon them.

T. J. SHEPPARD,

J. F. HOWE,

T. HARRY BARTLETT,

JOHN A. REICHARD.